

**CRYPTOCOCCUS ANTIGEN SCREEN, SPINAL FLUID**  
Test ID: CCRYP

**EXPLANATION:** Effective May 6 2014, test ID CCRYP - *Cryptococcus* Ag by EIA with reflex to Latex Agglutination will be obsolete due to method change.

**RECOMMENDED ALTERNATIVE TEST:**

1. For CSF submitted for initial diagnosis and for which fungal culture is not performed at the client facility (see Note):

LFACX – *Cryptococcus* Ag with Reflex, CSF. Positive specimens by LFACX will reflex to CLFAT – *Cryptococcus* Ag Titer, LFA, CSF. Positive specimens by CLFAT will reflex to FGENC – Fungal Culture, CSF.

2. For CSF submitted for initial diagnosis and for which fungal CSF culture is performed at the client facility (see Note):

CLFA - *Cryptococcus* Ag Screen with Titer, CSF. Positive specimens by CLFA test will reflex to CLFAT - *Cryptococcus* Ag Titer, LFA, CSF.

End point titers are not interchangeable and do not correlate between the latex agglutination (LA; previous method) and lateral flow methods (LFA). Providers should transition to monitor end-point titers by the LFA method. End-point titer values by the LA method will be reported alongside the LFA titer result for comparison until August 2014, at no charge. After this date, only the LFA titer will be performed.

**NOTE:** According to the College of American Pathologists (CAP, IMM.41840), CSF specimens submitted for initial diagnosis that test positive by the lateral flow assay should also be submitted for routine fungal culture. Fungal cultures are not required for CSF specimens that are submitted to monitor *Cryptococcus* antigen titers during treatment.