Culture Referred for Identification
*Mycobacterium and Nocardia* Algorithm

Organism is in pure culture and actively growing on Middlebrook (7H10 or 7H11) or Lowenstein-Jensen medium agar slant

Acid-fast stain for bacilli

**POSITIVE**

*Mycobacterium or Nocardia* identification by matrix-assisted laser desorption ionization-time of flight (MALDI-TOF) mass spectrometry*

Organism identified?

**YES**

Final interpretive report

**NO**

*Mycobacterium or Nocardia* identification by sequencing or *Mycobacterium Probe Identification (Agar)*

Organism identified?

**YES**

Final interpretive report

**NO**

Organism is in pure culture and actively growing in broth (e.g., *Mycobacterium Growth Indicator Tube 7H9 broth*).

Acid-fast stain for bacilli

**POSITIVE**

*Mycobacterium Probe Identification, Broth* 

Organism identified?

**YES**

Final interpretive report

**NO**

*Mycobacterium or Nocardia* identification by sequencing or MALDI-TOF mass spectrometry

*Nucleic acid probes used for identification, when applicable, include those for Mycobacterium avium-intracellulare complex, Mycobacterium gordonae, and Mycobacterium tuberculosis complex. MALDI-TOF mass spectrometry or 16S rDNA sequencing is used for identification, when applicable, for slowly and rapidly growing Mycobacterium species and aerobic actinomycetes (including Nocardia species and Streptomyces species)."