

**BACTERIAL ANTIGEN DETECTION PANEL, LA
#91908**

EXPLANATION: This test will no longer be available as a referral through Mayo Medical Laboratories to Focus Diagnostics, Inc. effective January 28, 2011. The latex agglutination test has been historically used to assist physicians in the diagnosis of suspected bacterial meningitis, however the test is no longer recommended for this purpose. This assay has been shown to have limited sensitivity and specificity as well as an extended turnaround time associated with sending this test to a referral laboratory.

For additional information please refer to the following Mayo Medical Laboratories Audio Hot Topic Presented by Dr. Robin Patel, M.D. entitled “Cerebrospinal Fluid Bacterial Antigen: No Benefit Beyond Gram Stain”.

<http://www.mayomedicallaboratories.com/articles/hottopics/transcripts/2010/2010-5a-bat/2010-5a-bat.html>

JOURNAL REFERENCE:

Karre T, Vetter EA, Mandrekar JN, Patel R Comparison of bacterial antigen test and gram stain for detecting classic meningitis bacteria in cerebrospinal fluid, J Clin Microbiol. 2010 Apr;48(4):1504-5.

RECOMMENDED ALTERNATIVE TEST: Patients with suspected meningitis should continue to be managed based on other available findings and laboratory tests available locally, such as cerebrospinal fluid gram stain and culture.