

UNITYPOINT HEALTH - MERITER LABORATORIES
TEST ANNOUNCEMENT
Cryptococcal Antigen

1/30/2025

On 2/17/2025, Microbiology will move Cryptococcal Antigen testing to a lateral flow assay. The IMMY Cryptococcal Antigen Lateral flow Assay is an immunochromatographic test system for the qualitative or semi-quantitative detection of the capsular polysaccharide antigens of *Cryptococcus* species complex (*Cryptococcus neoformans* and *Cryptococcus gattii*) in serum and CSF.

Positive specimens will have a titer performed with reported values of 1:5 to $\geq 1:2560$. All positive CSF samples must have a culture performed on the initial positive samples and one will be added if not already ordered.

	Current In-House Test	New In-House Test
Test Name	Cryptococcus Ag, Serum	Cryptococcal Antigen, Serum or CSF
Epic EAP	LAB779	LAB4945
SQ Code	CRYPAG	CRYAGL
Specimen	Serum	Serum or CSF

Cryptococcal Antigen

Epic/SQ Order Code: LAB4945, CRYAGL

Performing Laboratory: Meriter Laboratories

Methodology: Lateral Flow Assay

Specimen Requirements: Serum or CSF

Specimen Handling and Transport: Transport specimens immediately to Laboratory, delayed specimens must be sent at 2-8 °C up to 72 hours of collection.

Turnaround Time: 24 hours, Monday-Sunday

CPT Code: 87899, 87899-59 (titer, if applicable)

If you have any questions, please call the UnityPoint Health - Meriter Laboratories Client Services Department at 608-417-6529 or 1-800-236-0465.