

Fungal Meningitis Cases Resulting From Potentially Contaminated Steroid Injections

Target audience: Clinical laboratories

Update #2 Monday October 8, 2012

CDC has issued updated guidance (10/6/2012) for diagnostic testing and specimen submission related to the ongoing meningitis outbreak that is associated with products from the New England Compounding Center (NECC). The updated guidance is available at http://www.cdc.gov/hai/outbreaks/clinicians/instructions_testingandsubmission.html

CDC is requesting CSF specimens from patients who meet the case definition be forwarded to CDC (by way of the state public health laboratories) for further testing. It is acceptable to send it on cold packs to MDCH laboratory, where it will be frozen upon receipt and forwarded to CDC. (The CDC guidance states that CSF should be sent frozen). Consult the guidance (above) for specific handling of other specimens such as joint fluid or tissue.

Please complete both a **CDC request form**

<http://www.cdc.gov/hai/outbreaks/clinicians/pdf/CDC-DASH-Lab-Spec-Form.pdf>

And an **MDCH laboratory request form**

http://www.michigan.gov/mdch/0,4612,7-132-2945_5103_5278-14806--,00.html

Test requested: **Attn: Dr. Rudrik Forward to CDC**

Indicate test reason: **NECC outbreak**

Updated case definition:

http://www.cdc.gov/hai/outbreaks/clinicians/casedef_multistate_outbreak.html

Questions and Additional Information

For laboratory related questions, please contact

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For general questions regarding this outbreak or the information requested, please contact

Dr. Jennie Finks in the Bureau of Disease Control, Prevention and Epidemiology

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Thank you for your assistance in this investigation.