

illumigene[®] *Mycoplasma pneumoniae* DNA Amplification Assay

Mycoplasma pneumoniae or “walking pneumonia” is associated with up to 40% of community-acquired pneumonias (CAP). An estimated 2 million cases of *M. pneumoniae* infection occur annually with approximately 100,000 pneumonia-related hospitalizations in the United States each year. Infection occurs in both children and adults without geographical, gender or climate-related restrictions and an estimated 18% of *M. pneumoniae* cases in children require hospitalization when not treated quickly and appropriately.

The rapid and accurate result that the illumigene[®] M. pneumoniae DNA amplification assay provides allows for optimal patient care and safety.

- **Serologic tests used for diagnosis show poor reproducibility and sensitivity and management of patients on the basis of a single acute-phase titer is unreliable (IDSA)**
 - Detection of *M. pneumoniae* with DNA Amplification assays can be achieved on the **first day of symptoms** and have been shown to be **4 times** more sensitive and accurate than serologic diagnosis.
- **IDSA guidelines for community-acquired pneumonia recommend immediate antibiotic therapy**
 - Typical antibiotics like penicillin and cephalosporins are ineffective against *Mycoplasma* bacteria.
 - Rates of *M. pneumoniae* resistance to the macrolides empirically prescribed for CAP are increasing.
- **Research has shown that a *Mycoplasma pneumoniae* infection may precede the onset of asthma**
 - Children who are not properly treated for *Mycoplasma pneumoniae* are very likely to suffer more severe asthma attacks later

- **Order “M PNEUMONIAE DNA AMP” (335661)**
- **Submit a throat swab in a non-nutritive transport (red top dual swab) and store/transport at 2 - 29° C until tested.**
- **Results next day after receipt in lab**
 - **Reference Value: Negative**
 - **CPT code: 87581**

Technical inquiries:

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The University Difference

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