

# Pneumocystis jiroveci Quantitative Real-time PCR

Test Code: 2000

## Clinical and Procedure

### Clinical Utility

*Pneumocystis jiroveci* (formerly known as *Pneumocystis carinii*) pneumonia is a major cause of illness and death in individuals with impaired immune systems. *Pneumocystis* almost always affects the lungs, causing a form of pneumonia referred to as PCP. The organism that causes PCP has been renamed *Pneumocystis jiroveci* to reflect its new classification as a fungus. Quantitative DNA PCR is useful to detect the organism, track the course of infection, and monitor response to treatment.

### Procedure

Extraction of *Pneumocystis jiroveci* DNA from specimen followed by amplification and detection using real-time, quantitative PCR. An internal control is added to ensure the extraction was performed correctly and the PCR reaction was not inhibited. This test has not been cleared or approved for diagnostic use by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.

### Specificity

The primers and probes used in this assay are specific for known *Pneumocystis jiroveci* strains based on similarity search algorithms. Additionally, no cross reactivity was detected with any viral or protozoa pathogens.

## Turnaround Time

Same day (within 8 - 12 hours from receipt of specimen), Monday through Saturday.

## Specimen Information

Specimen Type	Order Code	CPT Code	NY Approved	Volume	Assay Range
BAL	2009	87799	Yes	2 mL (min. 0.5 mL)	59 IU/mL to 1.38x10 <sup>10</sup> IU/mL
Special Instructions					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Collect in a sterile, screw top tube.</li> <li>- Can be shipped at ambient or frozen temperature Monday through Friday.</li> <li>- Specimens shipped at ambient temperature must be received within 96 hrs. of collection.</li> </ul>					
bronch wash	2026	87799	Yes	2 mL (min. 0.5 mL)	84 copies/mL to 1x10 <sup>8</sup> copies/mL
Special Instructions					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Collect in a sterile, screw top tube.</li> <li>- Can be shipped at ambient or frozen temperature Monday through Friday.</li> <li>- Specimens shipped at ambient temperature must be received within 96 hrs. of collection.</li> </ul>					
trach asp	2019	87799	Yes	2 mL (min. 0.5 mL)	84 copies/mL to 1x10 <sup>8</sup> copies/mL
Special Instructions					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Collect in a sterile, screw top tube.</li> <li>- Can be shipped at ambient or frozen temperature Monday through Friday.</li> <li>- Specimens shipped at ambient temperature must be received within 96 hrs. of collection.</li> </ul>					
trach wash	2048	87799	Yes	2 mL (min. 0.5 mL)	84 copies/mL to 1x10 <sup>8</sup> copies/mL

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Specimen Type	Order Code	CPT Code	NY Approved	Volume	Assay Range
Special Instructions - Collect in a sterile, screw top tube. - Can be shipped at ambient or frozen temperature Monday through Friday. - Specimens shipped at ambient temperature must be received within 96 hrs. of collection.					
whole blood	2016	87799	Yes	2 mL (min. 0.5 mL)	213 copies/mL to 1x10 <sup>8</sup> copies/mL

Special Instructions  
 - Collect in EDTA or ACD tube; do not centrifuge.  
 - Can be shipped at ambient or frozen temperature Monday through Friday.  
 - Specimens shipped at ambient temperature must be received within 96 hrs. of collection.

### Shipping

Ship Monday through Friday. Friday shipments must be labeled for Saturday delivery. All specimens must be labeled with patient's name and collection date. A Viracor Eurofins test requisition form must accompany each specimen. Multiple tests can be run on one specimen. Ship specimens FedEx Priority Overnight® to: Viracor Eurofins, 1001 NW Technology Dr, Lee's Summit, MO 64086

### Causes for Rejection

Specimens beyond their acceptable length of time from collection as listed in the specimen handling, specimens received in trap containers or specimen types other than those listed.

### Disclaimer

Specimens are approved for testing in New York only when indicated in the Specimen Information field above.

The CPT codes provided are based on Viracor Eurofins' interpretation of the American Medical Association's Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) codes and are provided for informational purposes only. CPT coding is the sole responsibility of the billing party. Questions regarding coding should be addressed to your local Medicare carrier. Viracor Eurofins assumes no responsibility for billing errors due to reliance on the CPT codes illustrated in this material.

PCR tests are performed pursuant to a license agreement with Roche Molecular Systems, Inc.