NAPA-SOLANO-YOLO-MARIN COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY

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Test	Mycobacterium Identification
Test Description	Identification of a mycobacterium isolate determines the species of a submitted culture, typically using High Performance Liquid Chromatography (HPLC). HPLC speciates mycobacteria based on the unique mycolic acid composition of the mycobacterial cell wall. HPLC is performed on a weekly basis at the laboratory, and requires visible growth of the organism.
Acceptable specimens	 Viable, pure isolates on a slant culture (e.g., Lowenstein-Jensen or 7H10)
Specimen shipping and packaging	Isolates should be shipped at room temperature and packaged using appropriate safety measures. If the isolate is suspected to be <i>Mycobacterium tuberculosis</i> , the isolate should be submitted following Category A shipping and packaging guidelines. For additional information, please refer to documents on Packing and Shipping Division 6.2 Materials.
CPT code	87143
Test fee	Refer to the posted fee schedule
Result availability (turnaround time)	HPLC results are typically available within 1.5 weeks after an acid-fast organism is isolated. Time to isolation varies depending on the extent of bacterial contamination in the specimen, the growth characteristics of the organism, and other factors. If the specimen is referred to the Microbial Disease Laboratory for further identification, please allow for 3 weeks after referral for identification results.