



**CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO
PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY**
101 Grove Street, Room 419
San Francisco, CA 94102
Tel: (415) 554-2800 Fax: (415) 431-0651
Godfred Masinde, PhD., Lab Director
CLIA ID # 05D0643643

Test Order

Adult *Clostridium botulinum* Toxin Detection

| | |
|---|---|
| Synonym(s) | |
| Methodology | Mouse bioassay |
| Acceptable Specimen Type(s) for Testing | Pre-antitoxin serum (+/- stool). Alternative: gastric aspirate, excised tissues, post-antitoxin serum: please call for consultation. |
| Transport / Collection Medium | Pre-antitoxin serum: collect at least 8 ml of serum, NOT hemolyzed; submit in leak-proof container. Stool: submit 25 g of stool or enema in a clean, dry container without transport media. |
| Storage and Preservation of Specimen | Refrigerate until transported to the laboratory (do not freeze). Serum and stool should be packaged and shipped on cold packs (not dry ice). Do not allow cold packs to directly contact the samples. |
| Minimum Volume Required | 8 ml of serum, 25 g of stool. |
| Additional Collection Instructions | N/A |
| Additional Required Information | Consultation with San Francisco Communicable Disease Control at 415-554-2830 required. |
| Send Out? | Yes: Testing performed at the California Department of Public Health |
| Turnaround Time | Up to 15 days |
| Testing Restrictions | Consultation with San Francisco Communicable Disease Control required. |
| Requisition Form(s) | http://sfcdcp.org/document.html?id=1036 |
| Limitations / Notes / Disclaimers | The following medications can interfere with the mouse bioassay to detect botulinum toxin: neostigmine bromide, neostigmine methyl sulfate, pyridostigmine bromide, edrophonium, ambenonium chloride. Note: botulinum toxin detection is not a rapid or STAT test; it is an "in-vivo reference test." |

Updated 2/10/2017