

CSF Samples: Tests Available and Recommended									
Test	Availability	deadline	TAT	Applications					
	24x7d = 24 hr 7 days 16x7d = 0800-2400 x 7 days a week daily weekdays = batch weekly = batched weekdays = stat test on demand	for same day result	NWD = next working day SDoR = same day on request	Meningitis	Encephalitis	Immuno-suppressed	Rapid onset dementia	Oncology	Trauma / SAH / post surgical
<b>Microscopy and bacterial culture</b>									
WBC & gram stain microscopy	24x7d		2 hr	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Protein and glucose	24x7d		2 hr	Y	Y	Y			Y
Standard bacterial culture: S. pneumo, N. meningitidis, H. influenzae, Group B strep, neonatal E. coli	24x7d		2d	Y	Y	Y			Y
Pneumococcal antigen	24x7d		2 hr	Y	Y				
Cryptococcal antigen	daily		4 hr			Y			
Cytology & flow cytometry								Y	
<b>Virus</b>									
HSV PCR	daily weekdays		12:00 4 hr	Y	Y				
VZV PCR	daily weekdays		12:00 4 hr		Y				
Enterovirus PCR	daily weekdays			Y	Y				
JC virus PCR	sendaway		1 week			Y			
EBV PCR	sendaway		1 week			Y			
HHV6b PCR	sendaway		1 week			Y			
CMV PCR	sendaway		1 week			Y			
Exotic Virus PCR: West Nile Virus, TBE, American encephalitis	sendaway		1 week		Y				
<b>Bacterial PCR</b>									
Neisseria meningitidis PCR	requires negative culture and history of prior antibiotics		MWD						
Listeria PCR	urgent sendaway		2 days	Y	Y	Y			
Leptospirosis PCR	daily weekdays		NWD						
Syphilis VDRL	requires serum positive		2 weeks				Y		
Toxoplasma PCR	sendaway		1 week			Y			
Bartonella PCR	do serology first, sendaway		1 week						
<b>Tuberculosis</b>									
TB culture	Needs 5 mL CSF		6 weeks						
Acid fast stain	Needs 5 mL CSF		NWD						
TB PCR	ID/neuro consult		4 hr						
<b>CJD</b>									
14-3-3	requires history, MRI and EEG reports		2 weeks				Y		
Tau	requires history, MRI and EEG reports		2 weeks				Y		
RT-QuIC	requires history, MRI and EEG reports		2 weeks				Y		
<b>Special testing</b>									
<u>Autoimmune antibodies:</u>									
Glutamate receptor incl NMDAR	Requires named neurologist. sendaway		1 week		Y				
Neuronal (paraneoplastic)	Requires named neurologist. sendaway		1 week		Y				
Alzheimers testing	by negotiation								
Lyme disease	Test serum first. Requires travel history.								
<b>Blood</b>									
Glutamate receptor incl NMDAR	sendaway		1 week		Y				
Neuronal antibodies	sendaway		1 week		Y				
Syphilis EIA and RPR	sendaway		15:00 NWD		Y				
Lyme (Borrelia)	Requires travel history. Sendaway		2 weeks						
Leptospirosis PCR	weekdays		12:00 NWD	Y					
CMV viral load	sendaway		1 week						
HHV6 viral load	sendaway		1 week						
Malaria whole blood microscopy and antigen	16x7d		2 hr						