VCU Health™

*Department of Pathology Laboratories*

Notification Date: 10/21/2026
Effective Date: 10/26/2026

## **New Test Name - Cryptococcal Antigen, CSF with Fungal Culture**

Effective Monday October 26, 2026, Cryptococcal Antigen, CSF will now be ordered as Cryptococcal Antigen, CSF with Fungal Culture. Standalone Cryptococcal Antigen, CSF will no longer be available.

Explanation

New laboratory regulations require that all cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) Cryptococcal Antigen testing is performed in conjunction with a confirmatory fungal culture. This change helps detect rare cases of fungal meningitis caused by organisms other than *Cryptococcus* spp., which are not detected by Cryptococcal Antigen testing alone.

**For questions, please contact Pathology Client Services at (804) 828-7284 or Microbiology at (804) 628-4000, or the Main Campus Microbiology Director on-call pager at 9075.**