

# Anaplasma and Babesia Testing by PCR

Effective June 5<sup>th</sup>, 2023, the UVMCC Microbiology Laboratory will begin offering a new PCR test for *Anaplasma phagocytophilum* and *Babesia* species. This new test will replace two tests: UVMCC's Parasite Exam, Blood (manual microscopy of thick and thin smears) and Mayo Clinic Laboratories' Ehrlichia/Anaplasma, Molecular Detection, PCR, Blood, Mayo Test ID EPCRB. *Ehrlichia* is not being included in the new test battery as it is not currently endemic in our region. The Parasite Exam, Blood testing will remain orderable for other blood parasite requests (e.g. malaria). In addition, the UVMCC order panel "Tick Panel, Symptomatic" will be updated to reflect these changes (see below).

Anaplasma and Babesia Testing by PCR is a qualitative test and is performed on EDTA whole blood specimens. Testing will be performed 7 days/week, with a 24 hour turnaround time. Specimens that are positive for *Babesia* species will reflex to a blood parasite exam (LAB2545) for percent parasitemia calculations and reporting.

New Orderable	Epic Code	Atlas Code	Mayo Access ID	Order LOINC	CPT Code(s)
Anaplasma and Babesia Testing by PCR	LAB17623	LAB17623	FAH6133	No Current LOINC	87468, 87798
Result Component Name	Epic Code	Atlas Code	Mayo Access ID	Result LOINC	Notes
Anaplasma phagocytophilum	12301020109	12301020109	FAH6134	30039-2	
Babesia species	12301020110	12301020110	FAH6135	88233-2	
Container	Specimen	Temperature	Collect/Submit Vol	Min Vol	Stability
Lavender Top (EDTA)	Whole Blood	Refrigerate	2.5 mL	1.5 mL	72 hours
Reflex Algorithm					
If Babesia species is positive, Parasite Exam, Blood (LAB2545) will be performed at an additional charge.					
PARASITE EXAM, BLOOD - University of Vermont Medical Center Laboratory Test Catalog					

Orderable to be Inactivated	Epic Code	Atlas Code	Mayo Test ID
Ehrlichia/Anaplasma, Molecular Detection, PCR, Blood	LAB17579	LAB17579	EPCRB

UVMCC Tick Panel, Symptomatic	
Current tests included	Updated tests included
Ehrlichia/Anaplasma, Molecular Detection, PCR, Blood	Anaplasma and Babesia Testing by PCR
Lyme Antibody	Lyme Antibody
Parasite Exam, Blood	

For questions or concerns regarding these changes, please reach out to UVMCC's Medical Director of Microbiology, Dr. Christina Wojewoda via [Christina.Wojewoda@uvmhealth.org](mailto:Christina.Wojewoda@uvmhealth.org).

## PATHOLOGY & LABORATORY MEDICINE

111 Colchester Avenue | Mail Stop: 233MP1 | Burlington, Vermont 05401

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(802) 847-5121 | (800) 991-2799