



KOH Procedure	Attachments <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Key words Fungus, skin scraping	Number GHP-PC-CLINIC LAB- Procedures- KOH v. 11-2011
Category Provision of Care	Effective Date See Electronic File
Manual Clinic Laboratory Procedure Manual W@W Laboratory Procedure Manual Point-of-Care (PPM) Procedure Manual	Last Review Date See Electronic File
Issued By Clinic Laboratory – Laboratory Technical Consultants	Next Review Date See Electronic File
Applicable Clinic Laboratory Staff	Origination Date May 1992
	Retired Date
Level of Complexity Non-waived	Contact Laboratory Administration
Review Responsibility Laboratory Administration	Approved Date May 1992
APPROVAL(S) Laboratory Medical Director	

KOH Test
Clinic Lab Procedure (Pages 1-2)
Computer Test (Page 3)

I. PURPOSE/PRINCIPLE

Demonstration of fungi in infected tissue can be accomplished by adding Potassium hydroxide to the specimen and examining under the microscope.

II. POLICY

Laboratory Staff will follow the approved techniques outlined in this procedure.

Specimen:

- Skin: Good scraping.
- Nails: Include skin under nail.
- Hair: Include hair and hair bulb.
- Mouth: Lip, tongue or unspecified: swab or scraping

Reagents/Materials:

- 10% KOH ampules. These are single-use ampules. Store at room temperature.
- Glass Slides
- Coverslips

III. PROCEDURES

1. Specimen is placed on a glass slide, labeled, placed in a covered petri dish, and brought to the lab. The slide itself must be labeled. If the petri dish only is labeled, it is considered a partially labeled specimen and must be approved through the Provider responsibility form in order to continue with testing.
2. One drop of KOH is added to the specimen. Coverslip.
3. Using a tweezers to hold the slide, pass slide gently through flame 2-3 times or warm on incinerator.
4. Let slide sit for about 3 minutes.
5. Scan a minimum of 20 fields for fungi under low power. Confirm under high dry.
6. If examination is negative and specimen is thick material, let specimen sit in petri dish for 5-10 minutes, and re-examine.

Expected results: Negative

REPORTING RESULTS

Clinic Labs: see the Computer Entry section of this procedure

Provider-Performed Microscopy:

1. enter results as part of the visit encounter in EPIC

Well@Work Clinics:

1. enter results on test log sheet
2. fax test log sheet to Central Lab for result entry into the Laboratory Computer System

PROCEDURE NOTES

Care must be taken not to confuse so-called "mosaic" fungus (epithelial cell lines appearing as hyphae) and other artifacts with true fungi. True fungi hyphae will run over epithelial cells, not just along their edges.

REFERENCES

Davidsohn and Henry: Clinical Diagnosis by Laboratory Methods.

Dr. C. Soutor, GHI Inservice, July 1983.

AUTHOR/REVIEWER(S)

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IV. DEFINITIONS

V. COMPLIANCE

Failure to comply with this policy or the procedures may result in disciplinary action, up to and including termination.

VI. ATTACHMENTS

VII. OTHER RESOURCES

VIII. ENDORSEMENT

Laboratory Administration

Computer Order and Result Entry

KOH
Order Code: KOH

ORDERING:

After the computer has assigned an accession number in RE, you will be prompted for the following:

CODE

KSOUR

NAME

Source

RESPONSE

- Enter English text code(s) (RT-HAND!)
- You may also enter free text info if there are no codes
(;Sore on Left Elbow)

RESULTING:

WORKSHEET:

Function MEM Worksheet CM__ (Clinic Micro)

RESPONSE:

Report as POS or NEG

Reviewer(s):
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