

PCR-BASED MRSA NASAL SCREENING FOR SUSPECTED PNEUMONIA

June 2025



NOW AVAILABLE FOR ALL PATIENTS

Order MRSA Screen EPIC: LAB234 when initiating anti-MRSA therapy in the setting of suspected pneumonia.

SCREEN DETAILS



MRSA Screen
EPIC: LAB234 requires a nasal ESwab™ (swab both nostrils).

Early screening is essential for accurate detection of MRSA.

Screening is quick, and results should be available within 3 hours.

Positive MRSA PCR does not establish MRSA as a respiratory pathogen.

CLINICAL UTILITY

This test's high negative predictive value (96.5%) to rule out MRSA as a respiratory pathogen allows early de-escalation of antimicrobial therapy.

High negative predictive value is maintained for up to two weeks after negative results.



UNDERSTANDING MRSA SCREEN RESULTS IN PATIENTS WITH SUSPECTED PNEUMONIA



Negative MRSA Screen: consider stopping anti-MRSA therapy for clinically stable patients



Positive MRSA Screen: use clinical judgement in deciding whether to continue anti-MRSA therapy

BASED ON CURRENT DATA, USE OF THIS TEST FOR PREDICTION OF MRSA INFECTION AT NON-RESPIRATORY SITES IS NOT RECOMMENDED.