UNIVERSITY OF LOUISVILLE®

The Fungitell STAT® assay

The Fungitell STAT® assay is a protease zymogen-based colorimetric assay for the qualitative detection of (1→3)-β-D-glucan in the serum of patients with symptoms of, or medical conditions predisposing the patient to, invasive fungal infection. The serum concentration of (1→3)-β-D-glucan, a major cell-wall component of various medically important fungi, can be used as an aid in the diagnosis of deep-seated mycoses and fungemias. A positive result does not indicate which genus of fungi may be causing infection. (1→3)-β-D-glucan index values should be used in conjunction with other diagnostic procedures, such as microbiological culture, histological examination of biopsy samples and radiological examination. Note: Not all fungal infections result in elevated levels of serum (1→3)-β-D-glucan. Some fungi, such as the genus *Cryptococcus* produce very low levels of (1→3)-β-D-glucan. *Mucorales*, such as *Absidia*, *Mucor* and *Rhizopus* are not known to produce (1→3)-β-D-glucan. Similarly, *Blastomyces dermatitidis*, in its yeast phase, produces little (1→3)-β-D-glucan, and blastomycosis patients usually have undetectable levels of (1→3)-β-D-glucan in the Fungitell STAT® assay.

Targets	**Opportunistic fungal pathogens include *Candida* spp., *Aspergillus* spp., *Fusarium* spp., *Trichosporon* spp., *Saccharomyces cerevisiae*, *Acremonium* spp., *Coccidioides immitis*, *Histoplasma capsulatum*, *Sporothrix schenckii*, *Exserohilum rostratum*, and *Pneumocystis jirovecii*. The (1→3)-β-D-glucan produced by these organisms, and others, can be detected by the Fungitell STAT® assay.**
Accepted Specimens	1.0 ml Serum **Note:** Serum can be stored at 2-8°C for up to 15 days, or frozen at -20°C.
Specimens Receipt	Specimens accepted Monday through Friday.
Assay Schedule	The Fungitell STAT® assay is set up Monday through Friday.
Normal Range	Index values ≤ 0.74 are interpreted as negative results.
CPT Codes	**Fungitell assay:** 87449