

***Mycoplasma gallisepticum* (MG)**

ABOUT: *Mycoplasma gallisepticum* (MG) is a bacterial infection that primarily affects the respiratory tract of poultry. It causes chronic respiratory disease in chickens and infectious sinusitis in turkeys. MG can spread rapidly in flocks, especially under stress or poor environmental conditions.

SYMPTOMS: Clinical signs include coughing, nasal discharge, sneezing, swollen sinuses, and decreased egg production. Infected birds may show slower growth and poor feed conversion. Some infections may be subclinical but still impact flock performance.

PREVENTION: Prevention relies on strict biosecurity, sourcing MG-free breeding stock, and avoiding contact with wild birds or contaminated equipment. Good ventilation and reduced stress help limit outbreaks. Vaccines may be used in certain flocks under veterinary guidance.

GETTING TESTED: Blood samples from poultry can be tested for MG antibodies to confirm exposure. Collect at least 0.5 mL of blood in a red- or yellow-top tube. Samples should be refrigerated after collection and shipped with an ice pack.

Tests are processed on Monday, and results are reported the same day.

