

FLUID ANALYSIS

CSF:

Tube 1: Cell count, differential

Tube 2: Glucose, protein

Tube 3: Cultures, gram stain, cytology fungal stain & Cx, Crypto Ag, USAg, AFB, HSV PCR, VDRL

Tube 4: Save for further analysis

Ascitic Fluid:

Tube 1: Cell count, differential

Tube 2: Gluc, T protein, albumin, LDH, lactate

Tube 3: Gram stain, Cx

Tube 4: Cytology

SAAG

If the gradient is >1.1 :

- Portal HTN, SBP, cirrhosis, Alcoholic hepatitis, CHF

If the gradient is < 1.1 :

- Peritoneal carcinomatosis, TB, pancreatitis, nephrotic syndrome

SBP

- SAAG > 1.1
- >250 PMNs (>100 peritoneal dialysis)
- Ascites lactate level >25 mg/dL

Pleural Fluid:

Tube 1: T Protein, LDH, Gluc, TG, pH (on ice)

Tube 2: Cell count & diff

Tube 3: GST, Cx, fungal stain & Cx, AFB

Tube 4: Cytology

Light's Criteria

Fluid is exudate if it meets 1 of 3 criteria:

1. Pleural fluid LDH/serum LDH > 0.6
2. Pleural fluid protein/serum protein > 0.5
3. Pleural fluid LDH $>$ upper limit of normal serum LDH