

T1 Comparison of methods used for monitoring antifungal drugs

METHOD	ADVANTAGES	DISADVANTAGES
Bioassay	Inexpensive; easy to operate; commercially available	Interference because of drug-drug interactions; difficulty distinguishing the activity of some drugs from metabolites (e.g., itraconazole)
HPLC	Commercially available; multiplexed measurement; high chromatographic resolution	Interference from many substances; more time for running sample; complex sample preparation; limited specificity
LC-MS/MS	High sensitivity and specificity; small sample requirements; minimal sample preparation; rapid assay; multiplexed measurement; cost-effective	Expensive initial cost; not widely available; requires experienced personnel