Herpes simplex virus DNA amplification

Test Description	Qualitative assay for the detection of Herpes simplex virus 1 and 2 DNA in human specimens.
Test Use	Direct detection and differentiation of herpes simplex virus 1 and 2 to aid in the diagnosis of infection
Test Department	Virology Phone: (860) 920-6662, FAX (860) 920-6661
Methodology	Loop-mediated amplification and detection
Availability	Weekly as needed
Specimen Requirements	Cutaneous or mucocutaneous lesion swab submitted in viral transport media, 1-3 mL
Collection Kit/Container	To request collection kit, refer to Collection Kit Ordering Information.
Collection Instructions	Vigorously swab base of lesion and place swab in viral transport media. Use only polyester or Dacron-tipped swabs with plastic or aluminum shafts. Do NOT use calcium alginate or cotton-tipped swabs, or wood shafted swabs. Do not use VTM containing protein stabilizers
Specimen Handling & Transport	Store specimen at 2-8° C after collection and during transportation to the laboratory. Transport with ice packs. Specimens should be received for testing within 7 days of collection. Do not freeze or store at room temperature (15-25 °C).
Unacceptable Conditions	Unlabeled specimen Specimens that have leaked or containers that have broken in transit Specimens not handled, stored, or transported as described above
Requisition Form	Clinical test requisition OL-9B (select **Herpes Simplex PCR**)
Required Information	Name and address of submitter. Two patient identifiers (ie.name, DOB, Acc.#, MRN), Town of residence (city, state, zip), specimen source/type, date collected, test(s) requested. Please ensure information on the requisition matches that on the specimen.
Limitations	A negative result does not rule out infection with herpes simplex virus. The detection of nucleic acids is dependent upon proper specimen collection, handling, transportation, storage and preparation. Failure to observe proper procedure in any one of these steps can lead to inaccurate results.
Additional Comments	Nucleic acid may persist in vivo, independent of organism viability This test has not been FDA cleared for use with cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) or to aid in the diagnosis of HSV infections of the central nervous system (CNS). The device is not intended for prenatal screening.

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