HIV-1 / HIV-2 Testing

Test description	Qualitative assay for the detection of HIV-1 and HIV-2 antibodies and HIV-1 p24 antigen in human serum or plasma
Test use	Screening assay to aid in the diagnosis of infection with HIV-1 and/or HIV-2
Test department	Virology Phone: (860) 920-6662, FAX (860) 920-6661
Methodology	Multiplex flow immunoassay (MFIA) and HIV antibody differentiation assay
Availability	Test is performed 2 or 3 times weekly
Specimen requirements	1.5 mL serum (preferred) 1.5 mL plasma (acceptable anticoagulants include EDTA, sodium and lithium heparin)
Collection kit/container	To obtain collection kit, refer to Collection Kit Ordering Information
Collection instructions	Standard venipuncture
Specimen handling & transport	Store specimens at room temperature (15-25 °C) up to 2 days or at 2-8 °C up to 7 days, including transit time. For longer storage of specimens, keep at -20 °C or colder. Transport to laboratory with ice packs.
Unacceptable conditions	Unlabeled specimens 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 **HIV-1 / HIV-2 Testing**)
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 test result does not preclude the possibility of exposure to or infection with HIV-1 and/or HIV-2. • The performance of this assay has not been established for children less than 2 years of age since maternal IgG frequently persists for as long as 18 months after birth. Supplemental assays designed for neonatal specimens may be helpful in resolving such cases, including HIV nucleic acid tests or viral culture.
Additional comments	• Reactive specimens are retested in duplicate and confirmatory testing is performed on repeatedly reactive specimens (2 of 3 tests) using an HIV antibody differentiation assay.

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