

Herpes simplex IgG Antibody

Test Description	Qualitative assay for the detection of IgG antibodies to herpes simplex virus (HSV) type 1 and type 2 in human serum. This test does not differentiate between type 1 or type 2.
Test Use	As an indication of past infection with herpes simplex virus to identify asymptomatic carriers
Test Department	Virology Phone: (860) 920-6662, FAX (860) 920-6661
Methodology	Enzyme immunoassay (EIA)
Availability	Test is performed weekly
Specimen Requirements	1 mL serum
Collection Kit/Container	To request collection kit, refer to Collection Kit Ordering Information.
Collection Instructions	Standard venipuncture technique using serum-separator tube
Specimen Handling & Transport	Store specimen at 2°-8° C after collection and during transportation to the laboratory. Transport with an ice pack coolant. Specimens should be received for testing within 2 days of collection. Avoid temperature extremes. Transport frozen on dry ice if receipt is expected to be > 2 days from collection
Unacceptable Conditions	Unlabeled specimens Specimens that have leaked or containers that have broken in transit Lipemic, hemolyzed, icteric or grossly contaminated sera Specimens not handled, stored, or transported as described above
Requisition Form	Clinical test requisition (select Herpes Simplex IgG Antibody)
Required Information	Name and address of submitter (and/or Horizon profile #) Patient name or identifier, date of birth Specimen type or source of collection, date collected, test requested Please ensure patient name on the requisition matches that on the specimen.
Limitations	This test is not intended to diagnose current HSV infection or re-activation. It is not intended to replace virus isolation or detection to determine active infection. The presence of HSV IgG does not imply protection from disease and cannot be used to determine the success or failure of therapy.
Additional Comments	A positive result indicates previous immunological exposure to HSV. Anti-HSV IgG antibodies usually appear 1 to 2 weeks after onset of infection and persist at various levels for life.

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