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**HIV-1 / HIV-2 Testing**

<b>Test description</b>	Qualitative assay for the detection of HIV-1 and HIV-2 antibodies and HIV-1 p24 antigen in human serum or plasma
<b>Test use</b>	Screening assay to aid in the diagnosis of infection with HIV-1 and/or HIV-2
<b>Test department</b>	Virology Phone: (860) 920-6662, FAX (860) 920-6661
<b>Methodology</b>	Enzyme immunoassay (EIA) and HIV antibody differentiation assay
<b>Availability</b>	Daily, Monday-Friday
<b>Specimen requirements</b>	1 mL serum (preferred) 1 mL plasma (acceptable anticoagulants include EDTA, sodium and lithium heparin, sodium citrate)
<b>Collection kit/container</b>	To obtain collection kit, refer to Collection Kit Ordering Information
<b>Collection instructions</b>	Standard venipuncture
<b>Specimen handling &amp; transport</b>	Store at room temperature up to 2 days or 2°-8° C up to 7 days, including transit time. Specimens must be taken off RBCs and stored at <-20° C if stored for more than 7 days. Transport with an ice pack coolant (preferred) or at ambient temperature. Avoid temperature extremes. Transport frozen on dry ice if receipt is expected to be > 7 days from collection
<b>Unacceptable conditions</b>	Unlabeled specimens Specimens that have leaked or containers that have broken in transit Specimens not handled, stored, or transported as described above
<b>Requisition form</b>	Clinical Test Requisition (select <b>HIV-1 / HIV-2 Testing</b> )
<b>Required information</b>	Name and address of submitter (and/or Horizon profile #) Patient name or identifier, town of residence (city, state, zip), date of birth Specimen type or source, date collected, test requested Please ensure patient name on requisition matches that on the specimen
<b>Limitations</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A negative test result does not preclude the possibility of exposure to or infection with HIV-1 and/or HIV-2</li> <li>• 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.</li> </ul>
<b>Additional comments</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 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.</li> </ul>

Revision: 8/14/2017