HIV PCR

Test Description	Qualitative nucleic acid assay for the detection of HIV-1 RNA in human blood.
Test Use	As an aid in the diagnosis of infection with HIV-1 when the HIV combination EIA is reactive and the HIV antibody differentiation assay is negative or indeterminate.
Test Department	Virology Phone: (860) 920-6662, FAX (860) 920-6661
Methodology	Nucleic acid amplification test (NAAT)
Availability	Specimens referred to Florida State Public Health Laboratory
Specimen Requirements	1 mL plasma (preferred) or serum. Acceptable anticoagulants include K_2EDTA, K_3EDTA, ACD, or sodium citrate. Specimens must be repeatedly reactive using a 3rd or 4th generation HIV-1/HIV-2 immune assay and nonreactive or indeterminate using a supplemental assay. Notify Virology Laboratory prior to specimen submission.
Collection Kit/Container	Category B shipping box To obtain collection kit, refer to Collection Kit Ordering Information.
Collection Instructions	Standard venipuncture
Specimen Handling & Transport	Store specimen at 2-8° C. Specimens must be received within 72 hours of collection. Transport with an ice pack coolant.
Unacceptable Conditions	Unlabeled specimens Specimens that have leaked or containers that have broken in transit Specimens received after acceptable holding time
Requisition Form	Clinical test requisition (in the **Test, Agent, or Disease Not Listed (specify):** box, write **HIV PCR**)
Required Information	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 the requisition matches that on the specimen.
Limitations	Specimens are referred to the Florida Department of Public Health, Bureau of Laboratories for testing.
Additional Comments	Contact the Virology Laboratory prior to specimen submission.

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