Lab Dept: Microbiology/Virology

Test Name: HHV6 PCR, QUANTITATIVE

General Information

Lab Order Codes:	HHV6P
Synonyms:	Human Herpes Virus 6 PCR; HHV-6; Herpesvirus 6 (HHV-6) DNA, Quantitative Real-Time PCR
CPT Codes:	87533 – Herpes virus-6, quantification
Test Includes:	HHV6 detection by PCR reported in copies/mL and Log copies/mL.

Logistics

Test Indications:	This test is used to determine the presence of HHV-6 DNA in patient's specimens. Organisms may be detected by PCR prior to detection by immunological methods. PCR provides more rapid results than other methods, including culture.
Lab Testing Sections:	Microbiology - Sendouts
Referred to:	Mayo Clinic Laboratories forwarded to Quest Diagnostics (MML Test: FHV6P)
Phone Numbers:	MIN Lab: 612-813-6280 STP Lab: 651-220-6550
Test Availability:	Daily, 24 hours
Turnaround Time:	3 - 7 days
Special Instructions:	N/A

Specimen

Specimen Type:	Blood CSF, Bronchial Lavage, and Amniotic Fluid.
Container:	Blood: Lavender top (EDTA) tube Alternate tube: Yellow top (ACD) or Red top CSF, Bronchial Lavage, Amniotic fluid: Sterile leak-proof container

Draw Volume:	3 mL blood (minimum 0.5 mL whole blood or 1.5 mL to obtain plasma) 1 mL bronchalveolar lavage (BAL), 1 mL CSF
Processed Volume:	1 mL (Minimum: 0.5 mL) plasma/serum/ whole blood 1 mL BAL/CSF
Collection:	Routine blood collection
Special Processing:	Lab Staff: Centrifuge specimen, remove aliquot into a screw-cap plastic vial. Store and ship whole blood, serum/plasma, or CSF at refrigerated temperatures. Specimen stable 7 days refrigerated, 30 days frozen or 48 hours ambient. **Store and ship Bronchial lavage strictly frozen**. Forward promptly.
Patient Preparation:	None
Specimen Rejection:	Samples collected in Lithium/Sodium heparin; mislabeled or unlabeled specimens

Interpretive

Reference Range:	Not Detected
Limitations:	The sensitivity of the assay is very dependent upon the quality of the specimen submitted. The results obtained should be used in conjunction with clinical findings to make accurate diagnosis.
Methodology:	Real-Time Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR)
References:	Mayo Clinic Laboratories (December 2023)

Updates:

4/21/2004: Test moved from Eastern Virginia Medical School Department of Pathology to Mayo Medical Laboratory forward to Focus Technologies, Inc. Note: CPT change from 87533 to 87532.
1/24/2006: Test moved from Focus Technologies to an in-house test performed at Mayo Medical Laboratories.
12/5/2006: Test moved to back to Focus as the MML test was not quantitative. CPT change from 87532 to 87533.
4/12/2010: Added “plasma samples will be accepted”.
4/25/2011: Removed whole blood as a specimen type.
1/24/2018: Added whole blood as a specimen type.
3/21/2022: Quest added reporting in Log copies/mL.
11/21/2022: New minimum volumes and specimen stability
12/27/2023: Removed outdated Focus Technologies reference to bone marrow as an acceptable specimen, test limitations and interpretations; updated turnaround time; added specimen stability; removed ACD as an acceptable blood container.