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**Lab Dept:** Microbiology/Virology

**Test Name:** CMV BY PCR, BLOOD

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***General Information***

**Lab Order Codes:** CMVQU

**Synonyms:** Cytomegalovirus PCR

**CPT Codes:** 87497 - Infectious agent detection by nucleic acid (DNA or RNA); cytomegalovirus amplified probe technique

**Test Includes:** CMV detection by PCR. This test **does not** include CMV Culture. Refer to [Viral Culture](#).

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***Logistics***

**Test Indications:** Early detection of CMV viremia. Predicting CMV disease and response to viral therapy.

**Lab Testing Sections:** Microbiology/Serology - Sendouts

**Referred to:** Mayo Medical Laboratories (Test: CMVQU)

**Phone Numbers:** MIN Lab: 612-813-6280

STP Lab: 651-220-6550

**Test Availability:** Daily, 24 hours

**Turnaround Time:** 1 – 3 days, test set-up Monday - Saturday

**Special Instructions:** N/A

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***Specimen***

**Specimen Type:** Blood

**Container:** Lavender top (EDTA) tube

**Draw Volume:** 3.6 mL (Minimum: 2.1 mL) blood

**Processed Volume:** 1.2 mL (Minimum: 0.7 mL) plasma

**Collection:** Routine venipuncture, invert gently to mix.

<b>Special Processing:</b>	Lab Staff: Centrifuge specimen, remove plasma aliquot (within 6 hours of collection) into a screw-capped plastic vial. Store and ship at frozen temperatures. Forward promptly.
<b>Patient Preparation:</b>	None
<b>Sample Rejection:</b>	Specimens other than plasma; mislabeled specimens or unlabeled specimens

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### ***Interpretive***

<b>Reference Range:</b>	Undetected  A positive test result indicates presence of CMV DNA; a quantitative value (IU/mL) is reported.  A result of "Undetected" does not rule out the presence of CMV DNA. This test should not be used as the only criterion to form a clinical conclusion, instead, results should be correlated with other test results, patient symptoms, and clinical presentation.
<b>Limitations:</b>	A result of "Undetected" does not necessarily indicate the absence of CMV infection. False-positive results also may be due to suppression of virus replication to levels below the detection threshold, or to inhibitory substances that may be present in the specimens.  Inadequate specimen collection or storage may invalidate test results.
<b>Methodology:</b>	Real-Time Reverse Transcription-Polymerase Chain Reaction (RT-PCR)
<b>Additional Information:</b>	CMV may be present in the blood in healthy seropositive individuals at very low levels. CMV serology may confirm current infection.
<b>References:</b>	<a href="#">Mayo Medical Laboratories Web</a> June 2013
<b>Updates:</b>	3/18/2004: Test moved from Eastern Virginia Medical School Department of Pathology to Mayo Medical Laboratories. 6/3/2013: Method change, previously listed as Real-Time PCR/DNA Probe Hybridization 8/19/15: Draw volume change.