Lab Dept:	**Microbiology/Virology**
Test Name:	**HHV6 PCR, MOLECULAR DETECTION, SPINAL FLUID**

General Information

Lab Order Codes:	HHV6C
Synonyms:	Human Herpes Virus 6 PCR; HHV-6; Human Herpesvirus-6, Molecular Detection, PCR, Spinal Fluid
CPT Codes:	87532 – Herpes virus-6, amplified probe technique
Test Includes:	HHV6 detection by PCR reported as negative or positive for targeted HHV-6 DNA.

Logistics

Test Indications:	Useful as an adjunct in the rapid diagnosis of HHV-6 infection.
Lab Testing Sections:	Microbiology - Sendouts
Referred to:	Mayo Clinic Laboratories (MML Test: HHV6V)
Phone Numbers:	MIN Lab: 612-813-6280 STP Lab: 651-220-6550
Test Availability:	Daily, 24 hours
Turnaround Time:	2 - 5 days, set up Monday, Wednesday, Friday
Special Instructions:	N/A

Specimen

Specimen Type:	Spinal Fluid/CSF
Container:	CSF: Sterile container
Draw Volume:	0.5 mL (Minimum: 0.3 mL) spinal fluid
Processed Volume:	Same as Draw Volume
Collection:	Spinal fluid collection

Special Processing:	Lab Staff: **Do Not** centrifuge. CSF specimens should be frozen or refrigerated. Forward promptly. Specimen stable refrigerated (preferred) or frozen for 7 days.
Patient Preparation:	None
Specimen Rejection:	Mislabeled or unlabeled specimens. All specimens will be evaluated at Mayo Clinic Laboratories for test suitability.

Interpretive

Reference Range:	Negative This is a **qualitative** assay and results are reported either as negative or positive for targeted HHV-6 DNA. Human herpesvirus 6 (HHV-6) is the cause of the common childhood disease *exanthem subitum* (roseola infantum) and can reactivate after primary infection in immunocompromised adults and children.
Limitations:	The sensitivity of the assay is very dependent upon the quality of the specimen submitted. A negative test does not exclude infection with HHV-6 virus. Therefore, the results obtained should be used in conjunction with clinical findings to make an accurate diagnosis. This assay detects both viable and nonviable virus. Test performance depends on viral load in the specimen and may not correlate in the specimen and may not correlate with cell culture performed on the same specimen.
Methodology:	Real-Time Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR)/DNA Probe Hybridization
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. 11/4/2009: Test moved back to an in-house test at MML. CSF only. CPT change from 87533 to 87532. 12/27/2023: Added specimen stability, edited specimen rejection criteria, removed erroneous reference to quantitative results in the title.