
Lab Dept: Microbiology/Virology

Test Name: HHV6 PCR, QUANTITATIVE, SPINAL FLUID

General Information

Lab Order Codes: HHV6C

Synonyms: Human Herpes Virus 6 PCR, HHV-6

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 Medical 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.

Patient Preparation: None

Specimen Rejection: Warm specimens, mislabeled or unlabeled specimens

Interpretive

Reference Range: Negative

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 PCR Chain Reaction (PcR)/DNA Probe Hybridization

References: [Mayo Medical Laboratory Web Page](#) January 2018

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.