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**Lab Dept:** Microbiology/Virology

**Test Name:** VARICELLA ZOSTER PCR, BLOOD

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***General Information***

**Lab Order Codes:** VZVP

**Synonyms:** VZV PCR, Blood

**CPT Codes:** 87798 - Infectious agent detection by nucleic acid, not otherwise specified; amplified probe technique, each organism

**Test Includes:** VZV PCR results reported as Not Detected or Detected. This test **does not** include VZV culture. Refer to [Viral Culture](#).

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***Logistics***

**Test Indications:** Rapid (qualitative) detection of VZV DNA in clinical specimens.

Varicella Zoster virus (VZV) is a member of the Herpesviridae family that can cause chickenpox as a primary infection and can reactivate later in life as herpes zoster or shingles. VZV infection in immunocompromised individuals. VZV infection in immunocompromised individuals often leads to a progressive disease state involving multiple organs.

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

**Referred to:** Mayo Medical Laboratories (forward to Focus Diagnostics) (MML Test: 90522, Focus test: 45020)

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

STP Lab: 651-220-6550

**Test Availability:** Daily, 24 hours

**Turnaround Time:** 1 - 2 days

**Special Instructions:** N/A

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***Specimen***

**Specimen Type:** Whole blood

**Container:** Lavender (EDTA) top tube  
Alternate blood tube: Yellow (ACD) top tube

<b>Draw Volume:</b>	1 mL (Minimum: 0.3 mL) blood
<b>Processed Volume:</b>	Same as Draw Volume
<b>Collection:</b>	Routine venipuncture
<b>Special Processing:</b>	Lab Staff: Blood: <b>Do Not</b> Centrifuge. Send specimen in original collection container at room temperature via overnight transport.  Order this test through the Mayo Link. Mayo Test 90522, Focus test 45020.
<b>Patient Preparation:</b>	None
<b>Sample Rejection:</b>	Specimen collected in wrong container; mislabeled or unlabeled specimens

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### ***Interpretive***

<b>Reference Range:</b>	Not detected
<b>Critical Values:</b>	N/A
<b>Limitations:</b>	N/A
<b>Methodology:</b>	Molecular detection assay using target specific primers for amplification. Amplified fragments are subsequently detected by hybridization with specific probes to achieve maximum specificity and sensitivity.
<b>References:</b>	<a href="#">Mayo Medical Laboratories Web Page</a> August 2015  <a href="#">Focus Diagnostics Web Page</a> August 2015
<b>Updates:</b>	12/5/2006: Test previously sent to the UTSW Molecular Diagnostics Laboratory.