Lab Dept: Serology

Test Name: VZV IgM ANTIBODY

General Information

Lab Order Codes:	VZIGM
Synonyms:	Anti-VZV Antibody IgM ; VZV IgM Serology; Varicella-Zoster IgM Antibody
CPT Codes:	86787 – Antibody, varicella zoster (IgM)
Test Includes:	Anti-VZV Antibody IgM reported as positive or negative.

Logistics

Test Indications:	Intended for the qualitative detection of IgM antibodies to Varicella-Zoster diagnosing acute-phase infection.
Lab Testing Sections:	Immunology - Sendouts
Referred to:	Mayo Medical Laboratories (MML Test: VZM)
Phone Numbers:	MIN Lab: 612-813-6280 STP Lab: 651-220-6550
Test Availability:	Daily, 24 hours
Turnaround Time:	1 - 3 days; test performed daily
Special Instructions:	N/A

Specimen

Specimen Type:	Blood
Container:	SST (Gold, marble, or red)
Draw Volume:	1.5 mL (Minimum: 0.6 mL) blood
Processed Volume:	0.5 mL (Minimum: 0.2 mL) serum
Collection:	Routine blood collection

Special Processing:	Lab Staff: Centrifuge specimen, remove serum aliquot into a screw-topped plastic vial. Store and ship at refrigerated temperatures. Forward promptly.
Patient Preparation:	None
Sample Rejection:	Hemolyzed specimens; lipemic specimens; mislabeled or unlabeled specimens, specimens other than serum

Interpretive

Reference Range:	Negative A positive IgM result indicates a recent infection with VZV.
Critical Values:	N/A
Limitations:	A negative result does not rule out the diagnosis of VZV infection. Samples collected early in the course of a VZV infection may not have detectable levels of antibody. In such cases, it is recommended that a second serum sample be obtained 2-3 weeks later. The performance characteristics with individuals vaccinated with VZV (OKA Strain) have not been established. The test must be performed on serum. The use of whole blood, plasma or cord blood has not been established. Positive results from cord blood or neonates should be interpreted with caution. Results from immunocompromised patients should be interpreted with caution.
Methodology:	Immunofluorescence Assay (IFA)
References:	Mayo Medical Laboratories January 2018
Updates:	9/12/2005: Testing turnaround time previously listed as 1-6 days, testing performed 1 time per week. 2/1/2006: Test moved from Children's Hospitals and Clinics of Minnesota Laboratories to Mayo Medical Laboratories. 1/17/2018: Collection container update.