

HIV-2 RNA Detection and Quantification, Real-Time qRT-PCR, Plasma

Test ID: HV2QU

Useful for:

Confirmatory detection of human immunodeficiency virus type 2 (HIV-2) RNA in clinical plasma specimens for the diagnosis of acute or established HIV-2 infection

Quantifying plasma HIV-2 RNA levels (viral load) in individuals living with HIV-2:

- Before initiating antiretroviral therapy to obtain baseline viral load
- For monitoring HIV-2 disease progression with or without antiretroviral therapy

Methods:

Reverse Transcription Real-time Polymerase Chain Reaction (RT-qPCR)

Reference Values:

Undetected

Specimen Requirements:

Supplies:	Sarstedt Aliquot Tube, 5 mL (T914)
Collection Container/Tube:	Lavender top (EDTA)
Submission Container/Tube:	Plastic vial
Specimen Volume:	2.1 mL Plasma
Collection Instructions:	Centrifuge and aliquot plasma into a plastic vial.
Minimum Volume:	1.1 mL Plasma

Specimen Stability Information:

Specimen Type	Temperature	Time
Plasma EDTA	Frozen (preferred)	60 days
	Refrigerated	6 days

Cautions:

This assay is optimized for the detection and quantification of HIV-2 groups A, B, and A/B, but due to unexpected mismatches between the polymerase chain reaction primers and unusual or rare HIV-2 target sequences, some plasma specimens may yield "Undetected" or under-quantified results despite the presence of HIV-2 RNA. Results should be interpreted with caution, considering the patient's risk factors for HIV-2 infection, the analytical sensitivity of the assay, and possible source of the infecting HIV-2 strain. Follow-up HIV-2 RNA testing is recommended for patients with initially "Undetected" HIV-2 RNA test results but at high risk for or suspected to have HIV-2 infection.

Due to potential differences in assay performance, serial monitoring of HIV-2 viral load in a given patient should be performed with the same quantitative molecular assay.

CPT Code:

87539

Report Available: 14

Day(s) Performed: Varies (once per week)

Questions

Contact Rebekah Walsh, Laboratory Resource Coordinator at 800-533-1710.