

HIV-1 QUANTITATIVE TEST (VIRAL LOAD)

For in vitro diagnostic use

CERNER ORDERABLE

HIV RNA Viral Load, HIVVLoad 94600

CPT CODE

87536

CLINICAL UTILITY

Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) is the etiologic agent of Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (AIDS). HIV-1 viral load is used to aid in monitoring the disease progress for clinical management of HIV-1 infected patients. This test is not intended for the use of screening for the presence of HIV-1 or as a diagnostic test for HIV-1 infection¹.

METHODOLOGY

Quantitative RT-PCR

SPECIMENS

Plasma: Collect in 5 mL pearl or lavender top tube. Spin and separate plasma with 6 hours of collection. Aliquot plasma and refrigerate.

SPECIMEN STABILITY

Room temperature up to 6 hours, Refrigerated up to 72 hours, greater than 72 hours frozen

SHIPPING

Ship plasma on ice packs or if frozen on dry ice

CAUSES FOR REJECTION

Plasma not separated within 6 hours of collection.

Whole Blood frozen

Specimen collected in heparin

Specimen contains less than 1 mL of plasma

SPECIFICITY

Reverse transcription and PCR amplification primers for sequences within HIV-1 *gag* gene and the HIV-1 LTR region. Has ability to amplify and detect HIV-1 group M subtypes and HIV-1 group O. The performance of this assay has not been evaluated with specimens containing HIV-1 group N, nor with specimens containing HIV-2.

ASSAY RANGE

20 copies per mL to 10,000,000 copies per mL

TURNAROUND TIME

2-3 days

1. Reference information can be found in the Indiana University Health Molecular Assay Procedures.