



**National Microbiology
Laboratory**

**Laboratoire national de
microbiologie**

Guide to Services

Guide des services

JC Virus Quantitative PCR

Test: Quantitative PCR detection of JC virus.

Specimen: CSF, CNS biopsy. Sample of CSF required is 600 µL (minimum 300 µL).

Collection Method: Do not use heparin as an anticoagulant for plasma.

Specimen Processing, Storage, and Shipping: Ship at 4°C (or frozen). Freeze biopsies and ship frozen if not sent within 24h.

<http://www.tc.gc.ca/tdg/> or www.iata.org/dangerousgoods/index

Patient Criteria: Suspected cases of PML.

Accompanying Documentation: Standard specimen information.

Comments: N/A

Methods and Interpretation of Results: Quantitative PCR based on TaqMan technology. Analytical sensitivity between 1 and 10 copies of JC genome per assay. The results are reported as copy number per mL of specimen.

Turnaround Time: 10 working days.

Requisition Form: <http://www.nml-lnm.ca/english/guide/docs/Requisition form-Viral STD.pdf>

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References: Ryschkewitsch, C., P. Jensen, J. Hou, G. Fahle, S. Fischer, and E. O. Major. 2004. Comparison of PCR-southern hybridization and quantitative real-time PCR for the detection of JC and BK viral nucleotide sequences in urine and cerebrospinal fluid. J. Virol. Methods **121**:217-221