



Pathology and Laboratory Medicine

HERPES
SIMPLEX
VIRUS PCR
TYPE1/TYPE2



Laboratory: Microbiology



Requisition: Electronic Order



Method of Analysis: PCR (Polymerase chain reaction)



Test Schedule:

CSF samples are tested once daily Monday to Friday.

Blood and Lesions are tested three times a week on Monday, Wednesday and Friday.

Requests for expedited testing in critical cases must be discussed with Microbiologist on-call.

***Tissues are sent to Public Health Laboratory for testing.

Orderable - HSVPCR

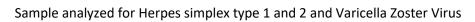
Turnaround Time: 3-5 days

Specimen and Collection Information:

Specimen Type	Collection Information
CSF	Submit a minimum of 300ul for one test in
	sterile container. Ensure submission of
	adequate sample volume if multiple tests are
	required.
Blood (EDTA) Lavender top	Blood collected with EDTA anticoagulant
Vacutainer*	(lavender-top tubes) is required.
	A minimum of 500ul plasma must be
*for diagnosis of disseminated	submitted, more than 1ml is recommended for
HSV on neonates and	multiple tests.
immunocompromised individuals	
Lesion scrapings/swabs	When collecting material from vesicles, disrupt
	vesicle and collect fluid and cells from base of
	lesion with a swab submitted in Viral Transport
	Media (VTM) tube.
	Inoculate scrapings or swabs from ulcers
	directly into VTM.
Neonatal surface swabs**	Using a single regular flocked swab, swab
	conjunctivae, mouth, nasopharynx and
	rectum, and place in one Viral Transport Media
	(VTM) tube.
	**any lesion should be swabbed separately
Fluids	Submit a minimum of 300ul in sterile
	container, ensure submission of adequate
	sample volume if multiple tests are required.
Tissues***	Submit a minimum of 0.5 grams in a sterile
	container.

In General: Swabs contained in the Viral Transport Kit (VTM) should be used for collection.

Interpretive Comments:











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Special Processing:

For SRA:

After 9 pm: Centrifuge and aliquot plasma. Refrigerate and send to Microbiology the following morning.

Storage and Shipment:

Blood (EDTA): Tubes MUST be spun, separated and stored at 4°C for shipment the next morning if there is a delay of ≥4 hours in transport to the Microbiology Laboratory. If there is a delay of more than 24 hours, plasma MUST be frozen at -80°C.

All other specimen types: must be received within 24 hours and should be stored at 4°C as soon as possible following collection. If the transport time exceeds 24 hours, the specimen will only be tested if appropriate.