

**SPECIMEN REQUIREMENTS FOR HUMAN IMMUNODEFICIENCY TESTING
SERUM SPECIMENS**

Revised on June 12, 2007

Methodology:

Screen: Enzyme Linked Immunoassay
Supplemental/Confirmatory: Western Blot

Performed:

aHIVAB HIV-1/HIV-2 (rDNA) EIA manufactured by Abbott Laboratories is an enzyme immunoassay for the qualitative detection of antibodies to Human Immunodeficiency Viruses Type 1 and/or Type 2 (HIV-1/HIV-2) in human serum, plasma, or cadaveric serum.

All specimens found to be repeatedly reactive or equivocal using the **a**HIVAB HIV-1/HIV-2 (rDNA) EIA are tested by a supplemental/confirmatory test. The Cambridge Biotech HIV-1 Western Blot Kit manufactured and distributed by Maxim Biomedical, Inc. is a qualitative assay for the detection and identification of antibodies to Human Immunodeficiency Virus Type 1 (HIV-1) contained in human serum or plasma.

Turn-Around-Time:

Specimens are tested in batches. Results are reported out in 7 calendar days (Oahu) to 10 calendar days (Neighbor Islands).

Specimen (type) required:

A minimum of one (1) mL of serum. A minimum of one (1) mL of plasma collected from an EDTA-anticoagulated blood.

Specimen Collection:

Serum (including serum collected in serum separator tubes); plasma containing heparin, EDTA, citrate and CPDA-1; cadaveric serum or whole blood collected in a vacutainer with no additives*.

Serum collected in serum separator tubes and whole blood collected in a vacutainer with no additives (red top) should be transported to the laboratory within 72 hours after collection.

***Only the STD Control Program can submit whole blood in vacutainers with no additives to the laboratory.**

Specimen storage, packing and transport: Ship specimens in sterile, screw-capped tubes. Follow instructions for Class B – Biological Substance of the U.S. Department of Transportation (U.S. DOT) and International Air Transport Association (IATA) for packing and shipping.

Specimen submission: Submitters (Authorized by the DOH STD/AIDS Branch's STD Control Program).

Requisition Form: Provided by the STD Control Program.

Unacceptable conditions:

- Specimen that is leaking;
- Improper container or handling;
- Heat inactivated serum, plasma, or cadaveric specimen;
- Obvious microbial contamination;
- Specimen quantity is insufficient to perform the tests;
- Unlabeled specimens;
- Improperly filled requisition form (provided by STD Control Program);
- Specimen label does not match the requisition;
- No informed consent for testing;
- Patient identifier is a name (testing is anonymous).

Stability: Serum or plasma specimens may be stored at 2°C to 8°C for a maximum of 14 days. For longer storage, freeze at <-20°C.

Cadaveric serum specimens may be stored at 2°C to 8°C for a maximum of 5 days. For longer storage, freeze at <-20°C.

Normal Value: No antibody detected to Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) Type 1/2

Result Notification: Laboratory results are reported to the STD Control Program.

Test performed at: Virology Section, Medical Microbiology Branch
State Laboratories Division

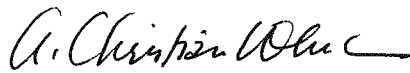
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Approved by:



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State Laboratories Division Administrator

June 15, 2007