

**LAB ALERT: NEW TEST**NOTIFICATION DATE: **7/24/2013**EFFECTIVE DATE: **7/30/2013****CYTOMEGALOVIRUS (CMV) VIRAL LOAD BY PCR, PLASMA**

TEST CODE:	CMVQT
INTERFACE CODE:	1004168
METHODOLOGY:	Roche COBAS AmpliPrep/COBAS TaqMan CMV Quantitative Real-Time PCR
CLINICAL UTILITY:	<p>Cytomegalovirus (CMV) is the most common opportunistic viral pathogen in the transplant setting causing pneumonitis, colitis, hepatitis, CNS disease, neutropenia, hematological abnormalities, retinitis, gastroenteritis, esophagitis, pancreatitis, and disseminated disease. In transplant populations, the infection is transmitted via latent CMV present in the transplanted organ donor and the virus subsequently reactivates, causing a primary CMV infection in the recipient. CMV disease may also occur from reactivation of the virus already present within the recipients. Studies in transplant recipients have shown the association between CMV viral load in blood and the risk of developing CMV disease. Increases in viral load over time have been associated with worse clinical outcomes. Nucleic acid amplification tests are the most sensitive and specific detection methods in the laboratory. Quantification of CMV DNA level in peripheral blood is used to determine when to initiate preemptive antiviral therapy, diagnose active CMV disease, and monitor response to antiviral therapy. Typically, CMV viral load changes of &gt;0.5 log IU/mL are considered biologically significant changes in viral replication.</p>
PERFORMED:	Monday-Saturday
COLLECTION:	5 ml of Peripheral Blood in Lavender top EDTA tube(s) <b>Specimen Preparation:</b> Centrifuge the EDTA tube(s) at 800-1600xg for 20 min at room temperature within 6 hours of collection. Aliquot plasma (Min. 2 mL) into a sterile standard transport tube.
STABILITY (FROM COLLECTION TO INITIATION OF TESTING)	Ambient: 6 hours. The plasma should be separated from the cells within 6 hours. After separation of plasma from the cells: Refrigerated plasma: 7 days, Frozen: 6 weeks
TRANSPORT:	Refrigerated
REFERENCE RANGE:	Target Not Detected (TND)
REPORTABLE RANGE:	137 to 9,100,000 IU/mL (2.14 to 6.96 log IU/mL)
RESULTS REPORTED:	1-3 days
CPT CODE:	87497
PERFORMING LAB:	med fusion

**ORDER/CONTACT INFORMATION:** ClearPoint Client Services: 972-966-7700 | Fax: 972-966-7799