

LAB ALERT - NEW TEST**NOTIFICATION DATE: 10/30/2013****EFFECTIVE DATE: 11/19/2013****Epstein-Barr Virus (EBV) Viral Load By PCR, Blood****TEST CODE:** EBVQT**INTERFACE CODE:** 1004207**TEST** EBMOL/1002498; EBVPCR/1000287**CODES/INTERFACE****CODES TO BE****DEACTIVATED:****METHODOLOGY:** Qiagen ASR Quantitative Real-Time PCR

CLINICAL UTILITY: EBV is associated with several malignant proliferative disorders including nasopharyngeal and gastric carcinoma, Hodgkin's disease, T/NK-cell lymphoma and Burkitt's lymphoma. Immunosuppressed individuals such as transplant recipients and patients with immunodeficiencies are at risk of developing post-transplant lymphoproliferative disorders (PTLD), post-transplant smooth muscle tumors, AIDS-related lymphomas and primary CNS lymphomas. The incidence of PTLD varies from 1% for renal transplant recipients to as high as 9-12% for heart/lung/pancreas transplant patients. EBV quantitation in blood has been shown to correlate highly with the subsequent development of PTLD in susceptible patients. In addition, preemptive treatment of EBV and reducing immunosuppressive therapy can reduce the incidence of PTLD. Serial trending of EBV viral loads using the same specimen type over time rather than a stable elevated EBV viral load is more reliable marker of PTLD. Whole blood is preferred for EBV viral loads in transplant populations as it detects DNA in both lymphocyte and cell-free compartments. There are no defined thresholds, however, viral load changes of >0.5 log IU/mL are considered biologically significant changes in viral replication. Low level viremia may occasionally occur in asymptomatic individuals. Therefore, this test should ONLY be used for patients with a clinical history and symptoms consistent with EBV infection. This test should not be used to screen asymptomatic patients.

PERFORMED: Monday-Wednesday-Friday

COLLECTION: 5 ml (Min. 1 mL) of Peripheral Blood in Lavender top EDTA tube.

STABILITY (FROM COLLECTION TO INITIATION OF TESTING): Ambient: 8 hours; Refrigerated: 5 days, Frozen: Unacceptable.

TRANSPORT: Refrigerated

REFERENCE RANGE: Target Not Detected (TND).

REPORTABLE RANGE: 317 to 1,100,000 IU/mL (\log_{10} 2.50 to \log_{10} 6.04 IU/mL).

RESULTS REPORTED: 1-4 days

CPT CODE: 87499

PERFORMING LAB: med fusion

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