

HIV Viral Load

Synonyms

Clinical Indication

HIV RNA viral load provides information on the level of plasma viraemia. It is used to assess viral control when a patient is started on Highly Active Anti-retroviral Therapy (HAART).

Please give detailed clinical information, including the date of any previous referral for HIV viral load.

Part of Profile / See Also

Request Form

Microbiology or combined Pathology manual request form or ICE request

Availability / Frequency of Analysis

Referred test: Analysed at SPS Taunton [9769*](#)

On request during normal working hours Monday to Friday ONLY.

Samples MUST be taken during the morning and sent to Microbiology by 12:00 to allow time for processing before being sent to the Reference Laboratory on the same day.

Turnaround Time

7-10 days

Patient Preparation

Sample Requirements

Specimen Type

Whole blood

Volume

5 ml

Container

Pearl Topped plasma preparation tube PPT (EDTA) vacutainer



Paediatric Lavender top (EDTA) tube

Samples MUST be transported to laboratory within 6 hours of obtaining blood from patient.

Reference Range & Units

Interferences

Interpretation & Clinical

Decision Value (if applicable)

References

Test code

VL

Lab Handling

Send to the Reference Laboratory on receipt.



9769
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