



LABORATORY ALLIANCE of Central New York, LLC

Change in Methodology for: Herpes Simplex IgG Typing

Laboratory Alliance is pleased to announce a change in methodology for Herpes Simplex IgG Typing assays. Effective September 5, 2012, these assays will be performed on the BioRad BioPlex 2200 using state-of-the-art multiplex bead flow immunoassay. Serum remains the specimen of choice for each of these assays. Testing is performed at our Operations Center on Tuesdays and Fridays. Our screening assays for HSV1/2 IgG and HSV1/2 IgM remain the same methodology and test schedule, but the change in platform for the typing assays will now allow same-day reporting for the typing tests that are reflexively ordered from positive IgG screens.

It is important to note that the format for reporting will change from a numerical result to a qualitative result (Positive, Negative or Equivocal). The previously reported numerical result was an antibody index, or a numerical comparison to a known standard cutoff. Antibody indices are not intended to be used quantitatively. Above the positive cutoff, detection quickly becomes nonlinear and numerical values are not meaningful. Although reported as numerical values, indices are interpretable only as positive or negative in comparison to assay-specific reference ranges. Mirroring the reporting for our EBV and MMRV serology assays (which are also performed by this method), results for these assays will be directly noted as positive, negative or equivocal without the need for comparing a numerical result to reference ranges.

In addition to the methodological change, we have also made some internal changes to test mnemonics which will allow for easier-to-read reports with typing results following the screening results. Test methodology, order codes, CPT codes and billing codes for the HSV IgG and IgM screening assays remain unchanged.

Assay	Description	Test Code	CPT Code(s)	Billing Code
HSV1/2 IgG and IgM Antibodies*	Battery with reflex testing	HSVGMR	86694x2 plus 86695 and 86696 if reflexed	2010211
HSV1/2 IgG with Reflex*	Battery with reflex testing	HSVGRE	86694 plus 86695 and 86696 if reflexed	2010210
HSV1 Glycoprotein G IgG	Individual test	HSV1GP	86695	2010207
HSV2 Glycoprotein G IgG	Individual test	HSV2GP	86696	2010208

*** Reflexively orders HSV1GP and HSV2GP if IgG screen is positive.**

Method: Multiplex bead immunoassay

Specimen Requirements: One SST tube; 1.0 mL serum minimum.
Heparinized plasma is also acceptable.

Unacceptable: Avoid hemolysis.

Stability: Refrigerated: 7 days

Storage and Transport: Refrigerated

Schedule of Testing: Tuesday, Friday

Questions regarding these tests may be directed to Cheryl Haskins, MS, MT(ASCP)SC, Manager of Chemistry and Referral Testing, at 315-410-7014 or cherylhaskins@lacny.com.

8/14/12, cmh