

Virus Culture - TESTING UPDATE

Effective Date: June 7, 2016

Viral culture for herpes simplex virus (HSV) and varicella-zoster virus (VZV) will no longer be performed on eye, skin and mucosal lesions. The recommended testing is nucleic acid amplification (*i.e.* PCR). There is no change in specimen collection and handling. The following table (stratified by specimen source) outlines the new ordering process. If you have questions, please contact Client Services (1-800-551-0488, option 5).

Herpes Simplex Virus 1 & 2 by PCR	SOFT: IHSV G	EPIC: LAB6401
Varicella Zoster Virus by PCR	SOFT: IVZV G	EPIC: LAB6408
Culture, Virus	SOFT: CXVIR	EPIC: LAB6774

Specimen Source	HSV by PCR	VZV by PCR	Culture, Virus
Eye, cornea	Order as needed	Order as needed	Not available
Eye, conjunctiva	Order as needed	Order as needed	Order as needed Only detects adenovirus. Direct fluorescent antibody (DFA) will be performed first. If DFA is negative, virus culture will be performed.
Skin / mucosa (1)	Order as needed	Not available	Order as needed Will only detect adenovirus and enterovirus
Skin / mucosa (2)	Order as needed	Order as needed	Not available
Skin / mucosa (3)	Mandatory	Not available	Mandatory

Skin / mucosa (1): rectal
Skin / mucosa (2): all sites other than rectal
Skin / mucosa (3): neonatal surface screening protocol

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Laboratory Test Directory: <http://beaumontlaboratory.com/test-lab-directory>

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Submitted by:

Bobby Boyanton, MD, Medical Director, Microbiology, Associate Medical Director, Molecular Pathology

Barbara Robinson-Dunn, PhD, D(ABMM), Technical Director, Microbiology

Beaumont Laboratory
Customer Service
1-800-551-0488