

HERPES SIMPLEX VIRUS (HSV) TYPE 1 & 2, PCR, QUALITATIVE

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TYPE 1 & 2, PCR, QUALITATIVE
(Real Time PCR)

Type of Specimen

HSV-1 DNA
HSV-2 DNA

Interpretation

RESULT OF HSV-1 & HSV-2	REMARKS
Positive	Sample provided contains HSV-1 / HSV-2 DNA
Indeterminate	Presence of inhibitors in the sample
Negative	Sample provided does not contain HSV-1 / HSV-2 DNA or number of viral DNA copies are below the detection limit of the assay

Note:

1. All Indeterminate results should be retested.
2. The detection limit of the assay is 2-10 genome equivalents per PCR reaction.
3. Contaminated samples may be falsely positive.

Comments

Herpes simplex virus (HSV) belongs to the family Herpesviridae. HSV infections occur worldwide with no seasonal distribution. The prevalence of HSV-1 infection increases gradually from childhood, reaching 80% or more in later years whereas the prevalence of HSV-2 infection remains low until adolescence and the onset of sexual activity. A large percentage of individuals seropositive for HSV are unaware of the infection, thereby comprising an important reservoir of infection. HSV-1 infections are characterized by oral lesions like gingivostomatitis & pharyngitis. Proportion of primary genital infections due to HSV-1 is increasing the world over due to changing sexual practices including increased oral genital exposure. HSV-2 infections are found principally in genitalia and transmitted through sexual contact. Primary infection with HSV-2 classically presents as Herpes genitalis.

Uses

Early diagnosis of HSV-1 / HSV-2 infections helps in timely anti-viral therapy which can prevent life threatening complications especially in immunocompromised individuals.