



TECHNICAL NOTICE

SOUTH BEND MEDICAL FOUNDATION, INC.

Test Update: HIV-1 RNA, Quantitative, by RT-PCR testing

Effective June 10th, 2011, the South Bend Medical Foundation updated the HIV-1 RNA, Quantitative, by RT-PCR testing (SBMF# 25103) from Roche TaqMan[®] HIV-1 test v1.0 to Roche TaqMan[®] HIV-1 test v2.0.

Roche TaqMan HIV-1 test v2.0 provides the following two distinct improvement of HIV-1 viral load testing by amplifying two distinct and highly conserved regions of the HIV genome, LTR and *gag*.

<u>Improvement</u>	<u>TaqMan HIV-1 v1.0</u>	<u>TaqMan HIV-1 v2.0</u>
Lower limit of detection (LLOD)	48 copies/mL	20 copies/mL
Genetic coverage	Group M subtype A-H	Group M subtype A-H, Group O

The updated v2.0 test exhibits high levels of agreement with the TaqMan HIV-1 test v1.0 test. Therefore, patient re-baseline is not needed.

As a result of the improvement in LLOD from 48 to 20 copies/mL, patients with previously undetectable HIV-1 levels may now have viral loads detectable at fewer than 48 copies/mL.

SPECIMEN REQUIREMENTS AND COLLECTION:

Specimen Type: Plasma, Lavender type (EDTA) tube

Preferred Volume: 2.5 mL

Minimum Volume: 1.0 mL – Note: This volume does not permit repeat analysis

Collection: Do not use gel-barrier tubes for specimen collection. Routine venipuncture.

Storage and Transport: Refrigerated up to 5 days or frozen

Causes for rejection: Sample collected in tube containing gel barrier material. Sample not centrifuged within 24 hours of collection time. Plasma not transferred to sterile polypropylene tube.

Testing Schedule: Tuesday and Friday

Order: Test #:25103 CPT: 87536

For additional information contact Deborah H. Sun, Ph.D. (dsun@sbfm.org) at South Bend Medical Foundation, (574) 234-4176 or (800) 544-0925.

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