



CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO
PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY
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Test Order

HIV-1 Viral Load

Synonym(s)	Human Immunodeficiency Virus
Methodology	Real Time RT-PCR
Acceptable Specimen Type(s) for Testing	Human plasma
Transport / Collection Medium	Plasma collection tubes (EDTA)
Storage and Preservation of Specimen	Freshly drawn specimens (whole blood) may be held at 15-30°C for up to 24 hours or at 2-8°C for up to 48 hours, prior to centrifugation. After centrifugation, plasma specimens may be stored at 2-8°C for up to 3 days. If longer storage is required, plasma specimens must be held at -70°C or lower.
Minimum Volume Required	3.0 mL of whole blood, or 1.5 mL of plasma
Additional Collection Instructions	N/A
Additional Required Information	Collection date and time required on requisition form.
Send Out?	No
Turnaround Time	7 business days (M-F)
Testing Restrictions	Only for contracted submitters
Requisition Form(s)	http://sfcdcp.org/document.html?id=1035
Limitations / Notes / Disclaimers	For medical management of HIV-1 infection; not for screening for HIV-1 infection.

Updated 2/10/2017