

Mission:

To protect, promote & improve the health of all people in Florida through integrated state, county & community efforts.



Ron DeSantis
Governor

Joseph A. Ladapo, M.D., Ph.D.
State Surgeon General

Vision: To be the **Healthiest State** in the Nation

BUREAU OF PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORIES JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA

Quick Reference Guide To HIV-1 Genotyping

The Department of Health, Bureau of Public Health Laboratories (BPHL) offers HIV-1 genotyping (antiretroviral drug resistance testing) using a Targeted-Next Generation Sequencing (T-NGS) methodology. Below is a guide for this service.

- ⇒ No preliminary restrictions such as fasting are required for a satisfactory plasma specimen.
- ⇒ Patient must have at least an HIV-1 viral load of 2,000 RNA copies/ml to attempt sequencing. Please provide the most recent viral load value and date performed with the HIV-1 test requisition. We will perform a viral load and bill accordingly if the provided last test date is >30 days or not provided.
- ⇒ Collect 5 ml blood in a sterile Plasma Preparation Tube (PPT), “pearl top”, BD reference #362788. The assay requires a minimum of 2.5 ml plasma. **Do not refrigerate whole blood.** Alternatively, one may collect 7 ml blood in EDTA (K3, 0.15% soln.), “purple top”.
- ⇒ Specimen must be labeled with **at least two unique patient identifiers** (first and last name, unique ID# or DOB) and the **date of collection**. Electronic lab order preferred, HMS, etc. **Information on the specimen must match the requisition.**
- ⇒ Centrifuge (10-15 minutes at 1000 x g) the PPT or purple top **within 8 hours of collection**.
 - If the BPHL is performing the HIV-1 viral load and HIV-1 genotyping please use the following.
 - 1) PPT is now ready to freeze until shipment is prepared (decanting plasma is not required). Purple tops will require decanting of plasma from cells, into a sterile screw-top plastic tube.
 - 2) Immediately place plasma in -20°C freezer.
 - 3) Send plasma on approx. 2-3 kg dry ice at ≤-20°C, if available, do not allow dry ice to contact specimens. If dry ice is not available, specimens may be sent on 3-4 frozen refrigerant packs in a Styrofoam cooler at 2-8°C. Please label cooler on the outside with **Genotyping**. Do not allow specimens to thaw before shipping.
- If the BPHL is performing only HIV-1 genotyping please use the following.
 - 1) PPT is now ready to store at 2-8°C until shipment is prepared (decanting plasma is not required). Purple tops will require decanting of plasma from cells, into a **sterile screw-top plastic tube**.
 - 2) Immediately place plasma in a 2-8°C refrigerator.
 - 3) Send plasma on 3-4 frozen refrigerant packs in a Styrofoam cooler at 2-8°C. Please label cooler on the outside with **Genotyping**.
- ⇒ Ship plasma, **prepaid priority overnight**, frozen or on cold packs to the BPHL-Jacksonville on **Monday thru Friday only**. If the work week includes a holiday, please call the laboratory for collection and shipping instructions.
- ⇒ Follow appropriate packaging and transporting guidelines. Do not transport dry ice in an air-tight container.
- ⇒ HIV-1 genotyping may be electronically ordered through HMS, test order #0570.

Should you need additional information or clarification please contact Ms. Imelda Ignacio-Hernando at (904) 791-1531, or Mr. Berry Bennett at (904) 791-1527.

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