

## EPSTEIN-BARR VIRUS (EBV) ANTIBODY

**Synonym(s):** EBV VCA IgG, EBV VCA IgG Antibody, EBV Viral Capsid Ag IgG, EBV VCA IgM, EBV VCA IgM Antibody, EBV Viral Capsid Ag IgM, EBV Ea IgA, EBV Ea IgA Antibody, EBV Early Antigen IgA, EBV VCA IgA, EBV VCA IgA Antibody, EBV Viral Capsid Ag IgA

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| <b>Lab Section Category</b>  | <b>Virology</b><br>Click here to find out more about the <b>write-up</b> ( <a href="/clinical-departments-centers/pathology/pathology-handbook/lab-discipline-special-instructions/pages/virology.aspx">/clinical-departments-centers/pathology/pathology-handbook/lab-discipline-special-instructions/pages/virology.aspx</a> ).   |
| <b>Description</b>           | Epstein-Barr virus VCA IgM Antibody (anti-VCA IgM)<br>Epstein-Barr virus VCA IgG Antibody (anti-VCA IgG)<br>Epstein-Barr virus VCA IgA (anti-VCA IgA)<br>Epstein-Barr virus EA IgA (anti-EA IgA)  |
| <b>Specimen Required</b>     | 3 – 5 mL plain blood.<br><br>(a) To diagnose acute infection, send single sample for <b>EBV VCA IgM Antibody</b> and second serum taken 10 – 14 days later if indicated.<br><br>(b) To diagnose previous infection, send single sample for <b>EBV VCA IgG Antibody</b> .<br><br>(c) To screen and aid in the diagnosis of nasopharyngeal carcinoma (NPC), send blood for <b>EBV VCA IgA Antibody</b> and <b>EBV EA IgA Antibody</b> . |
| <b>Storage and Transport</b> | Refrigerate samples if delay in transporting to laboratory is anticipated. <b>Do not freeze.</b>  |
| <b>Method</b>                | Immunofluorescence assay  |
| <b>Test Result</b>           | <b>Acute infection:</b> EBV VCA IgM positive or paired sera showing seroconversion<br><br><b>Previous (latent) infection:</b> EBV VCA IgG positive<br><br><b>Anti-VCA IgA:</b> Negative or Positive (Titre)<br><br><b>Anti-EA IgA:</b> Negative or Positive (Titre)   |

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| <b>Turnaround Time</b>    | Anti-VCA IgM/IgG : <1 - 4 days<br><br>Anti-VCA IgA : <1 - 7 days<br><br>Anti-EA IgA : <1 - 7 days      |
| <b>Day(s) Test Set up</b> | Anti-VCA IgM/IgG : Tuesday and Friday Anti-VCA IgA : Wednesday morning Anti-EA IgA : Wednesday morning |

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