



FLAVIVIRUS GENUS PCR

Synonym(s): Japanese encephalitis, West Nile, Yellow fever, Kunjin, Murray Valley encephalitis

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Lab Section Category	Molecular Diagnostics - Microbiology Click here to find out more about the write-up (/clinical-departments-centers/pathology/pathology-handbook/lab-discipline-special-instructions/pages/moleculardiagnosics.aspx).
Indications	To assist in the diagnosis of various flaviviral infections. If Dengue or Zika infections are strongly suspected, please request for the Dengue PCR or the Zika PCR respectively instead, for higher sensitivity of detection, and faster turnaround times.
Specimen Required	During acute illness, especially when patients are still febrile, blood samples in EDTA (purple top) tubes(at least 3 fully-filled) is the sample of choice. For a number of flaviviruses (eg. dengue virus, Zika virus, yellow fever virus, Japanese encephalitis virus, West Nile virus, etc), viral RNA may remain detectable in the urine for prolonged periods of time after they are undetectable in the plasma. If clinically warranted, consider sending urine sample in addition for testing. Please note that such requests will be separately chargeable. This assay has also been validated on urine, amniotic fluid and cerebro-spinal fluid(CSF) samples. Please note that other sample types have not been validated on this new assay and will generally be rejected.
Storage and Transport	Refrigerate sample at 2-8°C until transfer to laboratory. Do not freeze. Send sample at 2 - 8°C. Sample should reach the laboratory as soon as possible preferably within 24 hours after collection.
Method	Hemi-nested Reverse-transcription Polymerase Chain Reaction and Sanger Sequencing (In-house assay).
Test Result	Detected, Not Detected or Inconclusive
Turnaround Time	2-10 calendar days
Day(s) Test Set up	Tuesdays (except public holidays)

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