



## HUMAN IMMUNODEFICIENCY VIRUS (HIV) ANTIBODY, WESTERN BLOT

### Synonym(s):

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<b>Lab Section Category</b>	<b>Virology</b> 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>Specimen Required</b>	5 mL plain blood.  This test is carried out only on screened reactive samples. Samples must be submitted by a referring laboratory and accompanied by screening results.
<b>Storage and Transport</b>	Refrigerate samples if delay in transporting to laboratory is anticipated. <b>Do not freeze.</b>
<b>Method</b>	Western Blot

<b>Test Result</b>	<p>HIV status <b>confirmed positive</b> if there are:</p> <p>(a) Any 2 of p24, gp41, gp120/160 (CDC criteria) OR</p> <p>(b) 2 of 3 env bands with or without gag and/or pol bands (WHO criteria)</p> <p><b>Indeterminate result:</b> Bands are present that do not meet Positive criteria. Patients should be retested by a screening assay 4 weeks to 6 months later, as indicated on the individual test report. Sample should be accompanied by previous test result and laboratory reference number.</p> <p><b>Inconclusive result:</b> Band profile cannot be definitely characterised as positive, negative or indeterminate. Such a report is accompanied by a request for a second blood sample to be sent later.</p> <p><b>Negative result:</b> No viral specific bands.</p>
<b>Turnaround Time</b>	1 - 8 days
<b>Day(s) Test Set up</b>	Monday and Thursday

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