



HIV-1 and HIV-2 Antibody Differentiation to replace HIV Western Blot testing as a confirmatory test for HIV antibody screening done at St. Luke's

Effective July 25, 2014, St. Luke's Laboratory will begin reflexing positive HIV antibody tests to the HIV-1 and HIV-2 Antibody Differentiation test done at Mayo Medical Laboratories. This change is being made to align current testing practice with the updated CDC guidelines for HIV testing.

Mayo Medical Laboratory will perform additional reflexive testing based on the results of this test as follows:

- Tests that have a reactive HIV-1 antibody but a negative HIV-2 antibody suggest the presence of HIV-1 infection. No further testing will be done.
- Tests with an indeterminate HIV-1 antibody and a negative HIV-2 antibody will automatically be tested for HIV-1 antibodies by Western blot for further resolution.
- Tests that are reactive for both HIV-1 and HIV-2 will automatically be tested for HIV-1 antibodies by Western blot assay and HIV-2 antibodies by Immunoassay.
- Tests that are reactive for HIV-2 but negative for HIV-1 will automatically be tested for HIV-2 antibodies by Immunoassay.
- Tests that are unreadable for both HIV-1 and HIV-2 antibodies will automatically be tested for HIV-1 antibodies by Western blot and HIV-2 antibodies by Immunoassay.
- Negative results for both tests usually rule out HIV-1 and HIV-2 infection. However, if acute HIV-1 infection is suspected, HIV viral load testing is recommended. Viral load testing must be ordered by the provider.

If you have questions, please contact Kristin Baer, MD (218)249-5751, Chemistry Medical Director, Amber LaMourea, MT(ASCP) (218)249-5024, Immunology Technical Specialist, or Jennifer Viergutz, MT(ASCP) (218)249-5724, Laboratory Operations Manager