

MICROBIOLOGY - SEROLOGY

1.0 GENERAL

Serology section of Microbiology Unit is located at Klinik Pakar 1. It provides tests such as screening tests HIV Antigen- Antibody, HBsAg, Anti-HCV and Anti-HBs and other manual tests such as Rheumathoid Factor, ASOT, RPR test. All results despatched into pigeon hole. It operates from Monday until Friday only.

2.0 SPECIMEN COLLECTION

Description of specimen tubes

Color code	Type of tube	Available Size
Yellow cap	Plain tube for adults	3.5ml vacutainer
Colorless bullet tube	Plain tube for paediatrics	1.5ml
Lavender cap	EDTA (K2)	2.0ml vacutainer

Specimen shall be rejected according to rejection criteria such as haemolysed or insufficient sample.

2.1 For HIV antigen-antibody test, HBsAg, Anti HCV, Anti HBs, RPR(VDRL), Rheumathoid Factor and ASOT

- i. Aseptically collect a tube of 3-5ml venous blood into a plain tube adult or 3 bullet tube for infants.
- ii. Allow blood to clot at room temperature.
- iii. All requests must be accompanied with fully filled up PER - PAT 301 request form with patient's particulars, relevant clinical history including high risk factor involved, doctor's full name and signature. Send the specimen to the serology laboratory immediately.
- iv. For district hospital, to avoid haemolysis, it is advisable to separate the serum in a clean test tube. The specimen must be sent to the serology laboratory as soon as possible. If there is any delay, the serum must be kept at 2 - 8°C.
- v. For patients clinically suspected to be positive for HIV, send under **BIOHAZARD** precautions i.e. the specimen should be enclosed in double plastic bags and labelled clearly '**BIOHAZARD**'.
- vi. Urgent test for Needle Prick Injury and Organ Transplant is available

2.2 HIV Particle Agglutination

- i. It is tested on HIV antigen-antibody reactive specimens
- ii. Frequency of testing is twice a week.
- iii. All reports are despatched in double sealed envelope to the requesters.

2.3 TPPA (TREPONEMA PALLIDUM PARTICLE AGGLUTINATION)

- i. It is tested on RPR Reactive specimens
- ii. Frequency of testing is once a week.

3.0 LIST OF TEST PROVIDED

NO.	TEST	CONTAINER	FREQUENCY	TURN AROUND TIME	INTERPRETATION
1.	Anti-Streptolysin O titre	1 Plain tube/2 bullet tubes	Every working days	TAT: 3 working days	Positive with titre value/ Negative
2.	Rheumatoid Arthritis	1 Plain tube/2 bullet tubes	Every working days	TAT: 3 working days	Positive with titre value/ Negative
3	HIV Ag-Ab, HBsAg, Anti HCV,	1 Plain tube/3 bullet tubes	Every working days	TAT: 3 working days	Reactive/ Non reactive
4	Anti HBs	1 Plain tube/3 bullet tubes	Every working days	TAT: 3 working days	Reactive with titre value/ Non reactive
5	HIV Particle Agglutination	1 Plain tube/3 bullet tubes	Twice a week	Tested on Reactive HIV EIA specimen	Detected/ Not Detected
6	Treponema Pallidum Particle Agglutination (TPPA) test	1 Plain tube/3 bullet tubes	Once a week	Tested on Reactive RPR/VDRL specimen	Positive/Negative
7	HIV Line immunoassay(LIA)	1 Plain tube/3 bullet tubes	Send to referral lab	HPP- TAT 2 weeks	Positive/Negative
8	Rapid plasma reagin (RPR - VDRL)	1 Plain tube/3 bullet tubes	Every working days	TAT: 3 working days	Reactive with dilution value/ Non reactive

Note: HIV Ag-Ab, HBsAg, Anti HCV, Anti HBs and RPR(VDRL) –1 Plain tube/3 bullet tubes

4.0 NOTIFICATION OF RESULT

Results will be notified to the requestor immediately:-

- a) positive HIV cases
- b) needle prick injury cases

5.0 COMMUNICATION

Any enquiries can be directed to the Ext. 245 (Serology).