



**CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO
PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY**
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Test Order

HIV-1 RNA Screening / HIV-1 RNA Confirmation (Run Individually)

Synonym(s)	Individual RNA, Screening for acute HIV infection (tested individually); HIV-1 RNA detection for HIV-1 confirmatory testing
Methodology	Real Time RT-PCR
Acceptable Specimen Type(s) for Testing	Human plasma
Transport / Collection Medium	Plasma collection tubes (EDTA)
Storage and Preservation of Specimen	Freshly drawn specimens (whole blood) may be held at 15-30°C for up to 24 hours or at 2-8°C for up to 48 hours, prior to centrifugation. After centrifugation, plasma specimens may be stored at 2-8°C for up to 3 days. If longer storage is required, plasma specimens must be held at -70°C or lower.
Minimum Volume Required	3.0 mL of whole blood, or 1.5 mL of plasma
Additional Collection Instructions	N/A
Additional Required Information	Collection date and time required on requisition form.
Send Out?	No
Turnaround Time	7 business days (M-F)
Testing Restrictions	For routine HIV-1 RNA confirmatory testing. For suspected acute HIV-1 infection: high suspicion only, or through laboratory consultation.
Requisition Form(s)	http://sfcdcp.org/document.html?id=1035
Limitations / Notes / Disclaimers	This PCR assay was developed and its performance characteristics were determined by the San Francisco Public Health Laboratory. It has not been cleared or approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration. The FDA has determined that such approval is not necessary and results should not be regarded as investigational or for research. The San Francisco Public Health Laboratory has validated the extended room temperature stability of plasma specimens for HIV-1 pooling.

Updated 11/1/2021