



City and County of San Francisco Public Health Laboratory

11/22/2021

Dear Public Health Lab Submitter,

This letter is to inform you that the San Francisco Public Health laboratory will be changing the assay currently used for differentiating Herpes Simplex Virus 1/2 from HSV PCR to HSV TMA. Starting November 29th, 2021, we will be performing Herpes Simplex Virus 1/2 differentiation on the Hologic Panther instrument. This automated platform will help increase our testing capacity and improve our turnaround time. The following sources are approved for HSV TMA testing: anorectal, lesion/rashes, oral and clinician collected throat swabs.

When ordering the new HSV TMA test in Epic please use the following:

- Test name: HSV TMA
- Collection kit:
 - [Aptima Multitest Swab collection Kit.](#)
 - Viral transport media (VTM). Please note that specimens collected in VTM need to be transferred into the Aptima Multitest swab immediately after collection. For detailed specimen collection instructions please see the Aptima Herpes Simplex Virus 1 & 2 assay [Instructions for Use \(IFU\)](#)

The San Francisco Public Health laboratory [website](#), [testing menu](#) and [general requisition form](#) have been updated to reflect the changes listed above.

Please let me know if you have any questions about this change,

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Godfred Masinde".

Godfred Masinde, PhD, MBA, HCLD (ABB)
Director, Public Health Laboratory,
San Francisco Department of Public Health
Email: godfred.masinde@sfdph.org
Office Tel: 415-554-2800