

Division of Laboratory Medicine

Molecular Microbiology

BK virus PCR

General information

Collection container (including preservatives): CE marked leak proof container or 5mL EDTA blood collection tube

Specimen type: EDTA whole blood, CSF, urine

Specimen transport: Compliance with current postal and transportation regulations is essential

Clinical samples should be collected into a leak-proof container in a sealed plastic bag. Appropriate hazard labelling according to local policy should be applied. Specimens should be transported and processed as soon as possible. If processing is delayed refrigeration is preferable to storage at room temperature.

Minimum volume of sample:

Minimum volume 500µl

Special precautions: All samples are suitable for overnight refrigeration only, they must not be stored over a weekend

Laboratory information

Measurement units: Copies/mL

Biological reference units: Not applicable

Turnaround time for provisional result (working days): 3 days

Turnaround time to final result (working days): 4 days

Clinical information

Clinical decision points: Not applicable

Factors known to significantly affect the results: False negative results may occur for a variety of reasons, for example inappropriate timing of sample collection, inappropriate sample, presence of virus below the detectable limit of the assay.

New and emerging variants may also occur which may not be detected by this assay. Towards the limit of detection of an assay sampling variation will result in lower reproducibility.

(Last updated December 2014)