



醫院管理局
HOSPITAL
AUTHORITY

From: Prof Allen KC CHAN
Honorary Chief-of-Service
Dept of Chemical Pathology
PWH

To: All COSs, DOMs & Medical staff, NTEC

Cc: Dr KL CHUNG, HCE(PWH)/ CCE(NTEC)
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Date: 8 Aug 2024

Introduction of Plasma Epstein-Barr virus (EBV) DNA Testing Service for management of Nasopharyngeal Carcinoma (NPC) and other EBV-related malignancies

Implementation date: 20 August 2024

Testing of plasma EBV DNA is useful for management of patients with NPC to pick up early disease, correlate with staging, monitor treatment response and recurrence. Plasma EBV DNA test is also useful for management of other EBV-related malignancies.

With effect from 20 August 2024, plasma EBV DNA testing service by Real Time-quantitative PCR (RT-QPCR) will be introduced in PWH for NTEC patients. The test is reserved for patients with clinically suspected and/or confirmed NPC or other EBV-related (head & neck, or haematological) malignancies and should have been endorsed by one of the following specialties:

- **Ear, Nose & Throat (ENT)**
- **Clinical Oncology (ONC)**
- **Medicine & Therapeutics (Haematology)**
- **Family Medicine (FM) / General Out-Patient Clinic (GOPC)***

Please note the following arrangements for the new test:

1. Collect **TWO tubes of 3mL EDTA whole blood**.
2. Request test via Generic Clinical Request System (GCRS) as “**Plasma Cell-free EBV DNA**” under **Biochemistry Discipline**#.
3. Information of the **specialty team** and **test indication** must be provided.
4. The freshly collected EDTA bloods should be delivered to the local Chemical Pathology Laboratory on **normal working days in room temperature within office hour (between 09:00 to and 17:00)**.
[Note: For out-patients, kindly arrange blood collection at the Blood Taking Centre before 15:00[@] so that specimens can be arrived the local laboratory before 17:00 for prompt sample handling. Do NOT transport specimens with the pneumatic tube transport system.]
5. Turnaround time (TAT) is **7 – 10 working days**.
6. **Duplicated request within 14 days** will be rejected

For enquiries on the above new diagnostic service, please contact our Duty Biochemist at 3505 2685 / 3505 2331, or page through PWH Operator at 3505 2211.

Thank you for your kind attention.

Sincerely yours,

Prof Allen KC CHAN

*GOPC: Lek Yuen Clinic (LY), Yuen Chau Kok Clinic (YCK), Wong Siu Ching Clinic (WSC) and Fanling Family Medicine Centre.

For LY, YCK, WSC, GCRS test request under “PWH Laboratory”.

@For GOPC patients, kindly arrange blood collection before 12:00 for same day specimen transportation.

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