

**TESTING WILL NOT BE PERFORMED IF THE SPECIMEN REQUIREMENTS ARE NOT MET**

**MINIMUM SPECIMEN REQUIREMENTS**  
 (Minimum of 3 unique identifiers required on specimen tube)

**SEROLOGY**

<p>HIV-1/2          HCV          HBV HTLV-I/II  <i>Treponema pallidum</i></p>	<p>Test methods:           Specimen type/volume requirements &amp;          Specimen storage and transport requirements</p>	<p>CLIA, EIA, Western Blot, TPHA, RPR</p> <p>Minimum of 1mL EDTA plasma or serum collected from living or cadaver# donors and recovered from whole blood by centrifugation at 800 – 1600g within 72 hours of collection.</p> <p>Storage from collection date:          2-8°C for up to 7 days then frozen at ≤ -18°C.          Transport on cold packs to arrive at NRL as soon as possible following collection but within 7 days.          If sample will not arrive within 7 days of collection, freeze and transport on dry ice          # Specimens collected from cadaver donors must be collected within 24 hours of death.</p>
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**NAT**

<p>HBV DNA (Qual)          HCV RNA (Qual)          HIV RNA (Qual)</p> <p>Specimens collected from <b>Living</b> Donors</p>	<p>Test methods:           Specimen type/volume requirements &amp;          Specimen storage and transport requirements</p>	<p>Roche cobas 6800 MPX test</p> <p>Plasma recovered from blood collected in EDTA, CPD, CPDA1, CP2D and 4% sodium citrate anticoagulant tubes or BD EDTA Plasma Preparation Tubes (BD PPTM) or Greiner Vacuette K2EDTA Plasma Gel Tubes</p> <p>OR</p> <p>Serum recovered from blood collected in Serum clot tubes (without the gel).          Minimum of 1000µL Plasma or Serum (preferred volume 1100 µL)          Plasma collected in EDTA tubes and centrifuged within 72 hours of collection may be stored at 2-8°C for up to 12 days then up to an additional 12 months at ≤ -18°C</p>
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		<p>Shipping temp: Transport to NRL frozen on dry ice and delivered within 11 months of freezing</p> <p>OR</p> <p>Plasma collected in CPD, CPDA1, CP2D and 4% sodium citrate anticoagulant tubes or BD EDTA Plasma Preparation Tubes (BD PPTM) or Greiner Vacuette K2EDTA Plasma Gel Tubes and centrifuged within 72 Hours of collection may be stored at 2-8°C for up to 12 days then up to an additional 30 days at ≤ -18°C.</p> <p>Shipping temp: Transport to NRL frozen on dry ice and delivered within 3 weeks of freezing.</p> <p>OR</p> <p>Serum collected in Serum clot tubes (without the gel) and centrifuged within 72 Hours of collection may be stored at 2-8°C for up to 7 days then up to an additional 30 days at ≤ -18°C</p> <p>Shipping temp: Transport to NRL frozen on dry ice and delivered within 3 weeks of freezing</p>
<p>HBV DNA (Qual) HCV RNA (Qual) HIV RNA (Qual)</p> <p>Specimens collected from <b>Cadaver</b> Donors</p>	<p>Test methods:</p> <p>Specimen type/volume requirements &amp; Specimen storage and transport requirements</p>	<p>Roche cobas 6800 MPX test</p> <p>Plasma collected from cadaver donors in EDTA anticoagulant tubes within 24 hours of death.</p> <p>Minimum of 350µL Plasma (preferred volume 400 µL)</p> <p>Plasma collected in EDTA tubes and centrifuged within 72 hours of collection may be stored at 2-8°C for up to 8 days and then up to an additional 14 days at ≤ -18°C.</p> <p>Shipping temp: Transport to NRL frozen on dry ice and delivered within 1 week of freezing</p>

## HTLV DNA

HTLV-1 Proviral Load (PVL)  
Assay

Test methods:

Specimen type/volume  
requirements &  
Specimen storage and  
transport requirements

Quantitative Polymerase Chain Reaction  
(qPCR)

- Minimum of 4mL of whole blood collected in non-separator EDTA tube (e.g. Greiner VACUETTE® EDTA or/and BD Vacutainer EDTA) and transported at ambient temperature (15 - 25°C) to be received at NRL within 10 days from collection.
- Minimum of 4mL whole blood collected in BD Vacutainer CPT with sodium citrate centrifuged according to tube manufacturer's instructions. After centrifugation, tubes should be stored and transported chilled (2 - 8°C) **in a horizontal orientation (on their sides)** and received at NRL within 10 days from collection.
- A minimum of 400uL of buffy coat or PMBC resuspended in 100µL of PBS per 1mL of whole blood processed.
- Research use only (RUO); Dried Blood Spots (DBS), Formalin Fixed Paraffin Embedded (FFPE) specimens, Cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) and Bronchoalveolar Lavage (BAL) samples. Contact NRL clinical and research services for minimum specimen volume and sample storage/transport requirements for these specimens ([rd@nrlquality.org.au](mailto:rd@nrlquality.org.au)).

**SPECIMENS SENT BY AIRFREIGHT MUST COMPLY WITH THE FOLLOWING CONDITIONS:**

1. The sample should be packed and shipped in accordance with the IATA Dangerous Goods Regulations
2. For the specimens referred outside Australia, a copy of the NRL import permit and customs declaration should be attached to the parcel. A copy of the import permit and customs declaration template will be faxed.
3. The parcel should be addressed to:

**Philippa Hetzel  
Director  
NRL**

**4th Floor, Healy Building  
41 Victoria Parade  
FITZROY VICTORIA 3065**

**AUSTRALIA**

**Packages should not arrive on the weekend without prior arrangement.**