

TEST UPDATE

4TH GENERATION HIV TESTING

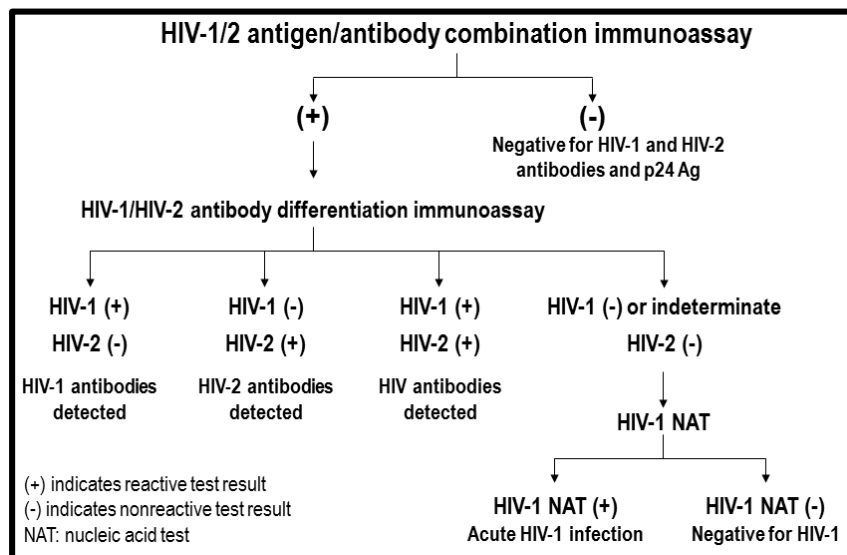
Pranil K. Chandra, DO, Medical Director
Mary M. Mayo, PhD, Scientific Director

This change will take effect **January 19, 2015**

OVERVIEW AND CLINICAL UTILITY:

Effective January 19, 2015, PathGroup will insource 4th generation HIV testing. Compared to the 3rd generation HIV antibody-only test, the 4th generation HIV assay provides greater sensitivity due its ability to detect the p24 antigen and conventional HIV-1 and HIV-2 antibodies. The p24 antigen becomes elevated and detectable during the initial burst of viral transmission before an antibody response. The risk of contagion in individuals with an HIV infection is reported to be greater in early acute infections due to high viral load.

In June 2014, the CDC released updated recommendations to Diagnostic Laboratory Testing for HIV infections in the United States. The updated HIV infection testing algorithm is detailed below.



ORDERING:

Specimen collection and storage, ordering test code (HIVL), performance frequency and turnaround time will remain the same for the 4th generation HIV assay.

TEST CODE	TEST NAME	OLD CPT CODE	NEW CPT CODE
HIVL	HIV Screen 4 th Generation	86703	87389

For further questions, please contact Client Services at 615-562-9300 or 1-888-474-5227.