Syphilis Confirmation (VDRL & TP-PA)

Test description	Detection of *Treponema pallidum* antibodies in human serum or plasma. Test results include a quantitative VDRL titer and a qualitative treponemal-specific assay result.
Test use	To confirm reactive results of non-treponemal syphilis screening (such as VDRL or RPR); as a diagnostic test in individuals with a nonreactive non-treponemal test result but with symptoms suggestive of late syphilis.
Test Department	Virology Phone: (860) 920-6662, FAX: (860) 920-6661
Methodology	VDRL slide flocculation test and *Treponema pallidum* Particle Agglutination Assay (TP-PA)
Availability	Daily, Monday-Friday
Specimen requirements	1-2 mL serum (preferred), or plasma collected using EDTA, Sodium Citrate or Heparin anticoagulants
Collection Kit/Container	To obtain a collection kit, refer to Collection Kit Ordering Information.
Collection instructions	Standard venipuncture technique
Specimen Handling & Transport	Store specimen at 2-8° C. Specimens must be received within 5 days of collection. Transport with ice pack coolant (preferred) or at ambient temperature. Avoid temperature extremes.
Unacceptable Conditions	Unlabeled specimen Specimen that has leaked or container that has broken in transit Serum that is hemolyzed or chylous
Requisition Form	Clinical Test Requisition (select **Syphilis Confirmation (VDRL & TP-PA))**
Required Information	Name and address of submitter (and/or Horizon profile #) Patient name or identifier, date of birth, town of residence (city, state, zip) Specimen type or source of collection, date of collection, test requested Please ensure patient name on requisition matches that on the specimen.
Limitations	False positive TP-PA reactions occur in a small percentage (<1%) of normal or healthy individuals. False positives may occur in patients with other underlying conditions.
Additional Comments	Test results include both VDRL and TP-PA. All VDRL results are titered to endpoint.

Revision date: 8/25/15