

EPSTEIN-BARR VIRUS VCA IGM

EPSTEIN-BARR VIRUS VCA IGG

1. Brief description

The Epstein-Barr virus (EBV) is one of the pathogenic herpes viruses. As many as 95% of people in the world adult population has been infected by EBV.

The main type of EBV transmission is the oral contact path. EBV replication occurs in oropharyngeal epithelium, virions get rid of infected B-lymphocytes and infectious particles get into the saliva. In childhood, primary EBV infection is often asymptomatic. Infections in adolescents and adults are manifested as infectious mononucleosis. After primary infection, latent EBV remains in the person's body for the rest of their life. The diagnosis of infectious mononucleosis is based on clinical manifestations - inflamed neck, fever, lymphadenopathy, fatigue and laboratory findings - lymphocytosis and positive heterophilic antibody detection and/or positive antibody detection tests against EBV - specific proteins. The term - mononucleosis syndrome is often used until a specific etiological agent has been determined.

The primary EBV infection is serologically determined if VCA IgM appears early and decreases to an undetectable level and increases in VCA IgG. In more than 80% of patients with symptomatic infectious mononucleosis, when examined for the first time, similar elevated levels of VCA IgM and IgG antibodies are revealed. VCA IgM antibodies usually disappear within two to three months after the onset of the disease, but IgG antibodies remain at a detectable level in healthy subjects.

2. Method - Immunochemical luminescence.

3. Tube labelling, blood storage time, testing material

- Labelling - red, yellow, green, purple or blue tube;
- Blood storage time:
 - In a refrigerator (+2° - +8° C); serum or plasma - seven days;
 - Frozen (-20° C); serum or plasma for longer storage;
- Testing material - serum, plasma.

4. Referenced values

Epstein-Barr VCA IgM

Negative - < 20 U/ml

Interpretation of results:

Negative - < 20 U/ml

Limit - value 20 - 40 U/ml

Positive - ≥ 40 U/ml

Epstein-Barr VCA IgG

Negative - < 20 U/ml

Interpretation of results:

Negative - < 20 U/ml

Positive - ≥ 20 U/ml

	No contact with EBV	Primary EBV infection, early stage (< 2 months)	Primary EBV infection or reactivation (< 4 months)	Post EBV infection (for a long time)
EBV VCA IgM	-	+	+	-
EBV VCA IgG	-	-	+	+