

Bacterial, Fungal and Viral Serology Schemes

These schemes are suited for clinical diagnostic laboratories that undertake tests for microbial antigen or antibody.

The schemes cover a wide variety of serological tests for viruses such as HIV and Hepatitis B, bacteria such as syphilis, and parasites such as toxoplasma. Some of the serological schemes, such as Blood borne viruses or Blood donor screen, are designed for laboratories for blood donor screening whilst others assist with diagnostic testing such as the Acute Hepatitis screen that covers detection of IgM antibodies to HAV, CMV and EBV.

Schemes consist of either single marker or multiple

markers, some including the use of confirmatory tests.

General information on scoring: specimens are characterised using a range of assays and are scored when pre-distribution results concur. Participating laboratories are then scored on their ability to obtain the consensus pre-distribution result. Specifics or exceptions for individual schemes are indicated in the Scoring column in the table below.

UK NEQAS for Microbiology, operated by Public Health England, is a UKAS accredited Proficiency Testing Provider No. 4715. Please see the schedule for details.

[Click here for Parasitology serology schemes.](#)

Scheme	Examinations	Sample format	No. of distributions per year	No. of samples per distribution	Scoring
Anti-HBs detection	Determining levels of anti-HBs antibody	Liquid human serum	3	6	Qualitative detection at greater or less than 10 mIU/mL
Blood donor Screen	HBV surface antigen HBc antibody HCV antigen/antibody HIV antigen/antibody HTLV I/II antibody Treponemal antibody	Liquid human serum	6	3	Positive or negative for the relevant marker
Blood borne viruses	HBV surface antigen HCV antigen/antibody HIV antigen/antibody	Liquid human serum	6	3	Positive or negative for the relevant marker
Cryptococcal antigen detection	Presence or absence of CrAg	Liquid human serum, bronchial lavage and/or simulated CSF	3	2	Positive or negative for CrAg
Diagnostic serology: acute hepatitis	HAV IgM CMV IgM, IgG and IgG activity EBV IgM and IgG including heterophile antibodies	Liquid human serum	2	3	Positive or negative for the relevant IgM marker with EBV infection scored on the interpretation of the results for the combination of tests performed by the laboratory
Fungal Biomarkers	Detection of the galactomannan antigen	Liquid human serum, bronchial lavage and/or simulated CSF	3	2	Presence or absence of the galactomannan antigen
Hepatitis B serology	Hepatitis B surface antigen Hepatitis B core antibody Hepatitis B core IgM Hepatitis B e antigen Hepatitis B e antibody	Liquid human serum	3	6	Positive or negative for the relevant marker
Hepatitis C serology	HCV antigen/antibody (screening and confirmatory testing)	Liquid human serum	3	6	Positive or negative for the relevant marker
Hepatitis E serology	HEV IgM and IgG	Liquid human serum	3	4	Positive or negative for the relevant marker
HIV serology	HIV 1/2 antigen/antibody (screening and confirmatory tests)	Liquid human serum	3	6	Positive or negative for the relevant marker
Immunity screen	HAV IgG or total Ab CMV IgG VZV IgG	Liquid human serum	2	6	Positive or negative for the relevant marker
Measles and mumps IgG serology	Measles IgG Mumps IgG	Liquid human serum	2	4	Positive or negative for the relevant marker
Parvovirus B19 and Rubella serology	Parvovirus B19 IgM & IgG Rubella IgM & IgG	Liquid human serum	2	4	Positive or negative for the relevant marker. For Parvovirus B19 scoring is based on interpretation of disease status
Rubella IgG serology	Determining levels of Rubella IgG	Liquid human serum	2	6	Qualitative detection at greater or less than 10 IU/mL
Syphilis serology	<i>Treponema pallidum</i> antibody (agglutination tests, FTA, Immunoassays, Immunoblot and Reagin)	Liquid human serum	2	6	Positive or negative for the relevant marker. Reagin not scored if negative for Reagin but syphilis serology positive