HIV-1/2 Antigen and Antibodies, Fourth Generation

Nonreactive

Negative for p24 antigen and antibodies to HIV-1 and HIV-2; HIV infection unlikely

Repeatedly reactive

HIV-1/2 antibody differentiation assay

Reactive

HIV infection (HIV-1, HIV-2, or undifferentiated)

Nonreactive or indeterminate

HIV-1 Qualitative RNA, TMA

Positive

Acute HIV-1 infection

Negative

HIV-1 infection unlikely. Consider testing for HIV-2 DNA ([34977](X)) if clinically indicated.

This algorithm depicts the testing pathway of the HIV-1/2 Antigen and Antibodies, Fourth Generation, with Reflexes test, which is consistent with references 3-5. Although nonreactive results on the fourth generation screening test and negative results on the HIV-1/HIV-2 differentiation test are consistent with absence of infection, they may also represent samples that were collected before development of detectable p24 antigen and HIV antibodies. Individual risk assessments may be helpful to determine the need for, and the frequency of, re-screening for patients with nonreactive/negative results.

The algorithm is provided for informational purposes only and is not intended as medical advice. A physician’s test selection and interpretation, diagnosis, and patient management decisions should be based on his/her education, clinical expertise, and assessment of the patient. TMA indicates transcription-mediated amplification.