

ICMR-NARI Apex laboratory Proficiency Testing Program For Regional Reference HIV-1 Viral Load Testing laboratories Using DTS

Date & Initials	Instructions and Process Checklist for DTS VLPT 21 R2
	<p>ACTION Please date & initial upon receipt of Proficiency Testing materials. Each PT package includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● One form of instruction and process checklist. ● One sets of PT panel. (A set of PT panel contains five Dried Tube Specimens (DTS)). ● One 6 ml tube of PBS buffer provided for reconstitution of DTS. <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin: 10px auto; width: fit-content;"> <p style="text-align: center;">Link to MSDS sheet for PBS buffer (Himedia, Cat No.0000421401): https://www.himedialabs.com/intl/en/products/Molecular-Biology/Buffers-and-Reagents-General-Buffers/PBS-Molecular-Biology-Grade</p> </div>
	<p>HANDLING</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● If any components of the PT package are missing or damaged, or any clarification required regarding EQAS program, please contact the PT provider at the following address: Address of Proficiency Testing Provider : ICMR- National AIDS Research Institute, Apex laboratory Proficiency Testing Program for Regional Reference HIV-1 Viral Load Testing laboratories Using DTS, Plot no. 73, G Block MIDC, Bhosari, Pune -411026 Ph. No. 020-27331200 Fax no.: 020-27121071 E-mail : viro.nari@gmail.com ● Store PT panel specimens at -20°C or colder (-80°C) upon receipt, until day of testing/until the expiration date. ● Do not use DTS vial past expiration date. ● Specimens must be at room temperature before opening vials for use in testing.

	<p>PRECAUTIONS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Panel specimens may contain infectious material and must be handled using standard laboratory precautions. ● Wear personal protective equipment when handling all components of the panel. ● Dispose of all waste according to local biosafety regulations.
	<p>SPECIMEN PREPARATION AND TESTING</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Process set of PT panel containing 5 DTS. ● On the day of PT panel testing, add 1.1 ml PBS reconstitution buffer to each DTS specimen and vortex for 10 seconds. ● Reconstituted specimens should be evenly blue in color, free of particulate matter and used immediately. If needed, the rehydrated specimens of DTS can be stored at 4°C for 24 hours or -20 °C or colder for up to one week, with no more than one freeze-thaw cycle. ● Perform testing according to your laboratory’s Standard Operating Procedure along with your patients’ specimens, so test results are truly indicative of your lab’s daily performance. In case of any problems report the same to the NARI Apex laboratory by email.
	<p>RESULT SUBMISSION</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Last date for the results submission for DTS VLPT 21R2 panel is due 01 APR 2022. ● Upload VL PT results with all the necessary testing details. ● Authorized personal or Lab-In-Charges will submit/ upload result by using www.nacopravogshala.in software or a soft copy of your laboratories PT panel results can be submitted online through email in case of any issue with the software (email at: viro.nari@gmail.com) to The In-charge, Division of Virology, ICMR- National AIDS Research Institute, Apex Laboratory Proficiency Testing Program for Regional Reference HIV-1 Viral Load Testing laboratories Using DTS, Pune on or before the deadline. ● Maintain a hard copy of the PT panel results submission at your laboratory for regulatory purposes. ● Also maintain a copy of the Scoring report sent by the Apex laboratory for the participating laboratory’s performance in the viral load PT.