INFECTIOUS MONONUCLEOSIS HETEROPHILE ANTIBODIES

I. Introduction

The MONOSPOT LATEX slide test is a latex particle agglutination test for in vitro qualitative detection of infectious mononucleosis heterophile antibodies (IgM) in serum or plasma. These antibodies appear in the sera of 85 to 90% of patients with infectious mononucleosis within 2 to 3 weeks after onset of illness.

II. Specimen Collection and Processing

5 mL of blood is collected in a serum separator tube and separated by centrifugation. The tube is refrigerated until testing. Specimens are stored at -70^{0}C after testing and discarded after 3 months.

III. Procedure

i) Reagents:

MONOSPOT LATEX Kit:

Store refrigerated. Allow the reagent to warm up to RT. Mix well before use.

ii) Other Materials:

Supplied with kit:
- Test slides
- Paddle pipettes

iii) Method:

1. Dispense 1 drop of the latex reagent onto a labelled oval ring of the test card.

2. Add 1 drop (50 μL) of patients's serum or control to the same ring.

3. Mix the latex reagent and serum together and spread to cover the entire area of the ring with the blade end of the paddle pipette.

4. Immediately rotate the card on the serologic rotator at 100 rpm for 3 minutes.

5. Observe for agglutination using a light source to aid in visualization.

iv) Interpretation of Results:

Negative: No agglutination

Positive: Any degree of agglutination

IV. Reporting

Positive Report: "Infectious mononucleosis heterophile antibody: POSITIVE"

Negative Report: "Infectious mononucleosis heterophile antibody: NEGATIVE"

V. Quality Control

Negative and positive controls must be included with each run and results and kit lot number recorded on the tasklist. When opening a new kit, record the lot number in the reagent lot number binder. Refer to a senior technologist if control results are outside of limits or for any other problems with running or reporting the assay.

Run external control (Accurrun 31) with each new lot. Result filed in Reagent Lot Binder. . If result is negative, the run is invalid. Inform Charge/senior technologist, and repeat testing.

CAP provides external proficiency testing.

VI. References

Manufacturer's package insert: Meridian Diagnostics, Inc., 3471 River Hills Dr., Cincinnati, Ohio 45244 U.S.A. 1-513-271-3700.