NATIONAL STANDARD METHOD

MINIMUM TESTING ALGORITHM

BLOOD BORNE VIRUS TESTING IN DIALYSIS PATIENTS

VSOP 10

Issued by Standards Unit, Evaluations and Standards Laboratory
Centre for Infections

UK Clinical Virology Network
STATUS OF NATIONAL STANDARD METHODS

National Standard Methods, which include standard operating procedures (SOPs), algorithms and guidance notes, promote high quality practices and help to assure the comparability of diagnostic information obtained in different laboratories. This in turn facilitates standardisation of surveillance underpinned by research, development and audit and promotes public health and patient confidence in their healthcare services. The methods are well referenced and represent a good minimum standard for clinical and public health microbiology. However, in using National Standard Methods, laboratories should take account of local requirements and may need to undertake additional investigations. The methods also provide a reference point for method development.

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# AMENDMENT PROCEDURE

<table>
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Each National Standard Method has an individual record of amendments. The current amendments are listed on this page. The amendment history is available from standards@hpa.org.uk.

On issue of revised or new pages each controlled document should be updated by the copyholder in the laboratory.

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a if more than one month since negative tests for BBV
b local risk assessment should be carried out based on the patients history including where and when
dialysed if outside the UK
c patients should be tested against HBsAg and anti-HBc to check for current/past infection; additional
investigation and monitoring may need to be considered where anti-HBc alone is found, while
absence of anti-HBc may indicate a need for vaccination against hepatitis B
d VSOP 4 - Hepatitis B diagnostic serology in the immunocompetent (including Hepatitis B in
pregnancy)
e VSOP 11- Anti-HIV Screening
f VSOP 5 - Investigation of Hepatitis C Infection
g store blood samples for at least a year
h HBsAg may not be required if recent antiHBs ≥ 100mIU/mL
i if no risk factors as per the guidelines

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS AND CONTACTS

This National Standard Method has been developed, reviewed and revised by the National Standard Methods Working Group for Clinical Virology (http://www.hpa-standardmethods.org.uk/wg_virology.asp ). The contributions of many individuals in clinical virology laboratories and specialist organisations who have provided information and comment during the development of this document, and final editing by the Medical Editor are acknowledged.

The National Standard Methods are issued by Standards Unit, Evaluations and Standards Laboratory, Centre for Infections, Health Protection Agency, London.

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VSOP 10/1
This SOP should be used in conjunction with the series of other SOPs from the Health Protection Agency
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REFERENCES
