

MEMORANDUM

To: All RML Clients
 From: Patti Loykasek, HTL, QIHC (ASCP), Manager of Molecular Pathology,
 Cindi Starkey, M.D., Ph.D., Chief of Molecular Pathology
 Date: April 23, 2018
 Updated August 20, 2018
 Subject: **Changing Quantitative Viral Load reporting from copies/ml to IU/ml for EBV, CMV and BKV**

UPDATE: After client feedback that not all clients received this memo, we decided to re-send the memo. Please note that results in copies/mL were provided in a footnote for 60 days.

The utility of viral load testing is well established in clinical practice and generally is performed for patients with chronic viral diseases or in those with a prior transplant. RML provides quantitative testing for Epstein Barr Virus (EBV), Cytomegalovirus (CMV), and BK virus (BKV) for these patients. These assays currently report in copies/mL, but are moving to a result of IU/mL (International Units/mL). Reference ranges for EBV and BKV will also be changing as noted in the table below. This change has been driven by laboratory accreditation agencies, and to enhance standardization of results. Patient results should not be compared between testing performed at different laboratories due to variability in methodology and assay design.

This change will go into effect April 30, 2018. For the first 60 days, the result will be footnoted with the result also in copies/mL. The following tests are impacted by this change:

TEST NAME	TEST MNEMONIC	TEST ORDER NUMBER	OLD REFERENCE RANGE	NEW REFERENCE RANGE
Cytomegalovirus (CMV) DNA, Quantitative	CMV QT PCR	3800225	≤199 Copies/mL	<200 IU/mL No change in value
Epstein Barr Virus DNA, Quantitative Real-Time PCR	EBV PCR QN	5580775	≤199 Copies/mL	<98 IU/mL
BK Virus DNA, Quantitative PCR, Plasma	BK VIRUS P	5504325	≤499 Copies/mL	<1560 IU/mL
BK Virus DNA, Quantitative PCR, Urine	BK VIRUS U	5504425	≤499 Copies/mL	<1560 IU/mL

This information was also sent on a live wire April 10, 2018.

If you have questions or need clarification, please contact anyone listed above at 918-744-2553.