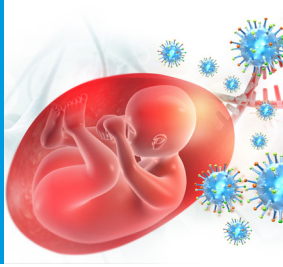
CYTOMEGALOVIRUS (CMV)
LAB POCKET GUIDE



DURING PREGNANCY

Serologic assays can detect IgG and IgM CMV-specific antibodies.

- CMV IgG – assess serological status.
  - 2 tests, weeks apart, that demonstrate seroconversion = infection present.
- IgM can give a false-positive due to cross-reactivity or non-primary infection.
  - May indicate a recent infection if there is a low IgG avidity.

NEONATE

	Urine	Saliva	Dried Blood Spot
Sensitivity	99%	99%	75%
Ease of Collection	Difficult	Easy	Easy
Timing	<21 days	<21 days	Anytime (if sample taken at birth)
Other	Can be used for confirmatory testing	Can have false positives due to CMV in breastmilk	Length of availability varies by state

References

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (n.d.). Laboratory testing for CMV and congenital CMV. Cytomegalovirus (CMV) and Congenital CMV Infection. https://www.cdc.gov/cytomegalovirus/php/laboratories/index.html

Dollard, S.C., Dreon, M., Hernandez-Alvarado, N., Amin, M.M., Wong, P., Lanzieri, T.M., Osterholm, E.A., Sidebottom, A., Rosendahl, S., McCann, M.T., & Schleiss, M.R. (2021). *Sensitivity of dried blood spot testing for detection of congenital cytomegalovirus infection. JAMA Pediatrics*, *175*(3), e205441. https://doi.org/10.1001/jamapediatrics.2020.5441