



**Department  
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# Virology Proficiency Testing Program

## Comprehensive Category

September 2015

Summary of scores, responses, and  
statistics for Comprehensive Category

### **Disclaimer**

**The use of brand and/or trade names in this summary  
does not constitute an endorsement of the products on  
the part of the Wadsworth Center or the  
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**The New York State Proficiency Testing Program September 2015 Comprehensive Category Evaluation Reports are available on the Health Commerce System via EPTRS and can be printed for your records.**

This summary is based on scores and responses in the Electronic Proficiency Test Reporting System.

**Sample Description:**

The September 2015 Comprehensive panel contained six simulated patient specimens, including one educational sample, that were viral isolates from patient specimens, and one no virus sample. All NYSDOH Proficiency Test samples were prepared from isolates of viruses cultured from clinical specimens received in the Virology Laboratory at the Wadsworth Center.

**NYS PT Sample 1631 was an Adenovirus, type 1 specimen.** The virus was originally isolated in 2012 from a stool specimen collected from an eleven year old male.

**NYS PT Sample 1632 was a Parainfluenza, type 3 specimen.** The virus was originally isolated in 2013 from an NPS collected from a fifty-five year old male.

**NYS PT Sample 1633 was a Herpes simplex virus, type 2 specimen.** The virus was originally isolated in 2012 from a penis swab collected from a twenty-two year old male.

**NYS PT Sample 1634 was a No Virus specimen.**

**NYS PT Sample 1635 was a Respiratory syncytial virus specimen.** The virus was originally isolated in 2011 from nasopharyngeal and oropharyngeal swabs collected from a one year old male.

**NYS PT Sample Educational E6 was an Enterovirus D68 specimen.** The virus was originally isolated in 2014 from a nasal swab collected from a six year old male. **This sample was not included in your final grade**

## Sample Scoring and Validation

The scores and analysis from the September 2015 Comprehensive Panel are shown below. Federally mandated validation criteria require a sample to be correctly identified by at least 80% of participating laboratories. CLIA and CLEP established a passing grade for participating laboratories at 80% or greater. All four samples are valid and the identities of Samples 1631, 1632, 1633, and 1635 were also confirmed by reference laboratories (all are public health laboratories).

**Please be aware that scoring is based on the number of samples your facility tested. No credit will be given for samples not tested.** For example, if a facility tested four of the five PT samples, the total score would be based on four responses, each worth, 25%. Therefore, if one response was incorrect, the total score would be 75%, a failing grade.

If your laboratory uses a confirmation method that detects and types a virus, it is expected that your laboratory's result includes the virus type.

## September 2015 Comprehensive Event

### Scoring Analysis: 31 Participating Laboratories

| Sample #                              | 1631*              | 1632**                | 1633**                       | 1634**   | 1635**                      |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|------------------------------|----------|-----------------------------|
| Sample Identification                 | Adenovirus, type 1 | Parainfluenza, type 3 | Herpes simplex virus, type 2 | No virus | Respiratory syncytial virus |
| Titer (TCID <sub>50</sub> ) Log 10/ml | 6.5                | 6.5                   | 5.3                          | 0        | 3.4                         |
| Laboratories Scoring 100%             | 29                 | 30                    | 30                           | 30       | 30                          |

\*Two laboratories reported "Specimen source not tested."

\*\* One laboratory reported "Specimen source not tested."

### Comprehensive Grade Distribution

| Total Score For Panel      | 100% | 80% | 70% | 60% | 50% | 40% | 0% |
|----------------------------|------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|----|
| Participating Laboratories | 30   | 1   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0  |

## Culture Methods Reported by Laboratories

# of Responses Using Each Method/Sample

|  | Sample 1631* | Sample 1632** | Sample 1633** | Sample 1634** | Sample 1635** | E6** |
|--|--------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|------|
| Conventional                           | 11           | 5             | 14            | 12            | 7             | 10   |
| Centrifugation Enhanced                | 8            | 8             | 9             | 8             | 9             | 8    |
| Conventional & Centrifugation Enhanced | 10           | 17            | 6             | 10            | 14            | 12   |

\*Two laboratories reported "Specimen source not tested."

\*\* One laboratory reported "Specimen source not tested."

## Confirmation Methods Reported by Laboratories

# of Responses Using Each Method/Sample

|                                   | Sample 1631* | Sample 1632** | Sample 1633** | Sample 1634** | Sample 1635** | E6** |
|-----------------------------------|--------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|------|
| Immunofluorescence                | 28           | 29            | 26            | 7             | 29            | 15   |
| No Confirmation Testing Performed | 0            | 0             | 0             | 23            | 0             | 10   |
| CPE                               | 1            | 0             | 1             | 0             | 0             | 3    |
| Culture Passage                   | 0            | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             | 1    |
| ELVIS                             | 0            | 0             | 3             | 0             | 0             | 0    |
| Hemadsorption                     | 0            | 1             | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0    |
| PCR                               | 0            | 0             | 0             | 0             | 1             | 0    |

\*Two laboratories reported "Specimen source not tested."

\*\* One laboratory reported "Specimen source not tested."

## Educational Sample E6 Responses Reported by Laboratories

|                      | E6 (TCID <sub>50</sub> =4.5) |
|----------------------|------------------------------|
| Enterovirus, Untyped | 13                           |
| Enterovirus D68      | 1                            |
| No Virus             | 9                            |
| Other                | 7                            |
| Coxsackie, Untyped   | 1                            |

### **Educational #E6 Notes:**

In 2014 NYS, and the rest of the United States, experienced an outbreak of Enterovirus D68. The virus was first identified in California in 1962. This virus has been associated with severe respiratory illness, especially in children and asthmatics. Few cases of enterovirus D68 have been reported to the CDC in the past 25+ years. This virus can be propagated in cell culture with most testing algorithms used by our permitted laboratories. However, there are few confirmatory tests available that will correctly identify/type this virus. The main purpose of this educational sample was to gain an indication of the testing capacity of our permitted labs for this virus. Additionally, this educational sample was aimed to highlight the need for laboratories to remain proactive in ensuring their laboratories testing procedures and reagents, or referral processes were in place, to adequately detect newly circulating viruses. If you are interested in more information on enterovirus D68 please follow the link below.

<http://www.cdc.gov/non-polio-enterovirus/about/EV-D68.html>

### **NYS Virology Proficiency Testing Notice**

- **The September 2015 Comprehensive panel is the last Comprehensive panel New York State will be sending to permitted laboratories.**

As discussed in previous letters to NYS CLEP permitted laboratories, numerous proficiency test (PT) panels have been eliminated from the 2016 CLEP test menu. Please refer to the August 14, 2015 letter sent to all Laboratory Directors stating, "Beginning January 1, 2016, laboratories that are currently enrolled in these NYS PT programs must be enrolled in another CMS-approved PT program that satisfies the same CLIA PT requirements."

- If you have any questions, please contact:  
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