

1.- INTENDED USE AND INDICATIONS

NatQal HIV is a ready to use Human Immunodeficiency Virus Type 1 (HIV-1) RNA - positive quality control sample without any assigned value.

It is intended to be used with the cobas® MPX assay or cobas® TaqScreen MPX Test and the cobas® s201 and 6800/8800 systems manufactured by Roche Diagnostics, or with the Procleix® Ultrio® Assay, Procleix® Ultrio Elite® Assay and Procleix® UltrioPlexE Assay and the Tigris® and Panther® systems manufactured by Grifols, for Nucleic Acid Testing (NAT) in human plasma/serum.

NatQal HIV is an in vitro medical device (IVMD) in accordance with EU Regulation 2017/746. This control sample is used to monitor performance of routine NAT analytical process. It allows the user to detect procedural errors or potential failures in the analytical process. This device must be used under the same conditions as those applied to biological samples. It must not be substituted for the mandatory control reagents provided with the manufactured test kits.

2.- COMPOSITION AND PACKAGING

NatQal HIV is manufactured from:

- ▶ HIV-1 RNA solution (Accurun® 315 HIV-1 RNA positive control series 400, SeraCare Life Sciences Inc., MA, USA);
- ▶ pooled human plasma sourced from blood donations collected, qualified and prepared in accordance with the good transfusion practices¹, filtered and tested non-reactive for HIV-1, HCV and HEV RNA and HBV DNA.

Accurun® HIV 315 is manufactured by diluting a culture of HIV-1 type B virus (virus 8E5 with an intact but defective viral genome)² in HIV-1 RNA negative defibrinated plasma, tested non-reactive for HBsAg and antibodies for HIV-1 and 2 and HTLV. It contains stabilizers and 0.09% of sodium azide as preservative (in accordance with the technical file provided by SeraCare Life Science Inc., MA, USA).

NatQal HIV is supplied in two different packaging sizes:

- Reference **190011**: NatQal HIV - 1 ml x 50 vials packaging
- Reference **190012**: NatQal HIV - 1 ml x 10 vials packaging

The product barcode, which allows computer-based reading of the batch code, is included inside the packaging.

3.- DELIVERY AND STORAGE CONDITIONS

NatQal HIV is carried at controlled temperature allowing the maintenance of a temperature ≤ -20°C. Store NatQal HIV upon receipt at -20 °C or colder until use or expiration date.

To prevent leakage, store vials of NatQal HIV upright.

INDICATIONS OF REAGENT INSTABILITY OR DETERIORATION

NatQal HIV is delivered and stored in frozen form. After thawing and homogenization, it appears as a translucent yellow liquid.

Alterations in physical appearance may indicate instability or deterioration of NatQal HIV. In this case, do not use the device and please contact EFS Réactifs hotline for assistance.

4.- WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS – LIMITATIONS

CAUTION

Handle NatQal HIV and all human blood derivatives **as though capable of transmitting infectious agents** according to Good Laboratory Practices.

SAFETY PRECAUTIONS

Only health professionals, and especially laboratory technicians according to the French Public Health Code L4352-1 to 9 or local legislation, qualified to perform qualitative and/or quantitative NAT assays should use this device. It must be handled in appropriate containment facilities by competent personnel who are fully trained in the handling of infectious products and in accordance with national and local safety rules.

Rules for the handling of contaminated human blood products must be applied². Use the World Health Organization (WHO) recommended universal precautions for handling NatQal HIV and human blood.

Do not eat or drink in areas where specimens are being handled. Do not pipette by mouth. Wear appropriate laboratory protections (lab coats, gloves, goggles, etc.).

Clean any spillage by immediately wiping up with 0.5% sodium hypochlorite solution.

Any serious incident related to the device must be notified to the manufacturer and to the competent authority of the Member State in which the user is established.

After use, dispose of all specimens, controls and materials used in testing as though they contain infectious agents, in accordance with laboratory procedures and Good Laboratory Practices.

HANDLING PRECAUTIONS

Do not use NatQal HIV beyond the expiration date.

Avoid contaminations when opening and closing vials.

Do not transfer the product to another recipient.

This product contains sodium azide. To prevent formation of potentially explosive compounds due to reaction of sodium azide and copper or lead pipes, flush waste lines with large quantities of water.

LIMITS OF USE

NatQal HIV must be stored and used in accordance with the instructions given in this document. Test procedures and interpretation of results provided by test kits manufacturers must be followed. Deviations from procedures recommended by test kits manufacturers may produce unreliable results.

The performance characteristics of NatQal HIV have been established only for the detection of HIV RNA.

Performances of NatQal HIV are not guaranteed in case of inappropriate shipping, storage conditions or use of expired products.

INFORMATION FABRICANT / MANUFACTURER INFORMATION



Fabricant légal / Manufacturer

ETABLISSEMENT FRANÇAIS DU SANG (EFS)
20, avenue du Stade de France
93218 LA PLAINE SAINT-DENIS Cedex - FRANCE

Site de fabrication / Production site : EFS Réactifs Brest

Tel : +33 (0)6.62.99.46.76

ou/ou

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Pour une assistance technique, une information ou un signalement, la hotline EFS Réactifs vous accueille du lundi au vendredi de 9h00 à 17h00 :

For technical assistance, information or report, EFS Réactifs hotline is open Monday to Friday from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm.

References

190011
190012

Packaging

50 tubes / vials
10 tubes / vials

5.- USE PRINCIPLE

Routine use of independent positive controls enables laboratories to monitor day-to-day and operator variation, lot-to-lot performance of test kits, and can assist the user in identifying errors and failures, and in revealing possible defects in the analytical chain or in the reagents used for the detection of HIV RNA.

NatQal HIV simulates a positive sample or a positive sample pool. It follows all the steps of the analytical process going from the preparation of the sample, to its amplification and detection.

In this context, NatQal HIV participates in the validation of a given series of assays, as well as for the validation upon receipt of the reagents used.

6.- MATERIAL, REAGENTS AND OTHER CONSUMABLES

NatQal HIV has been validated on analytical systems supplied by Grifols (Procleix® Tigris® System – Procleix® Ultrio® Assay, Procleix® Panther® System - Procleix® Ultrio Elite® Assay or Procleix® UltrioPlex E Assay) or Roche Diagnostics (cobas® s201 system - cobas® TaqScreen MPX Test, cobas® 6800/8800 systems – cobas® MPX)⁷⁻⁸.

Any replacement of a reagent/material combination must be subjected to method validation by the user.

7.- PROCEDURE

MATERIALS REQUIRED BUT NOT PROVIDED

Refer to user manuals provided by the manufacturers of the NAT kits used.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR USE

NatQal HIV **must be quickly and completely thawed at 37°C** to avoid the formation of cryoprecipitates. Gently mix the tube at this stage until ice clot has disappeared.

Briefly vortex the tube before use. If necessary, remove residual drops of solution in the stopper and open the tube carefully. If necessary, remove bubbles or foam using a sterile pipette.

Do not centrifuge the tube.

NatQal HIV is for single use, and should not be reused.

After thawing, the vial should be used immediately.

NatQal HIV should be included in any test run in accordance with the procedure provided by the manufacturer for unknown samples. It must not be substituted for the control reagents provided with manufactured test kits.

This device is ready-to-use. It has been designed to be integrated directly into the analytical chain at the beginning of the sample preparation step or after the pooling step if it is processed. It does not undergo the pooling step.

8.- EXPECTED RESULTS

NatQal HIV should give a **POSITIVE result**, in accordance with experimental data and the manufacturers' instructions for use of NAT reagents for HIV RNA screening, for the interpretation of results for a reactive sample.

If the results are not consistent with those expected, this may indicate an unsatisfactory performance of the analytical process. The user is then advised to proceed to the analysis of the possible causes, to invalidate the entire run and to inform EFS Réactifs manufacturer if necessary.

9.- DIAGNOSTIC PERFORMANCES

Analytical performances and stability studies were carried out on the analytical systems of the company Grifols (Procleix® Tigris® System - Procleix® Ultrio® Assay, Procleix® Panther® system – Procleix® Ultrio Elite Assay et UltrioPlex E) as well on the analytical systems of the company Roche Diagnostics (cobas® s201 system - cobas® TaqScreen MPX Test, cobas® 6800/8800 systems – cobas® MPX)⁷⁻⁸. The results obtained are consistent with data from NAT reagents' manufacturers for the detection of HIV-1 RNA. 100% of NatQal HIV have been tested POSITIVE.

The viral load of the sample is evaluated as an indication at 100 copies/ml. This viral load represents at least thrice the 95% detection threshold (SD95%) of detection techniques, assessed by multicentric studies⁵⁻⁶.

Procedures for implementing a quality assurance program and monitoring test performance on a routine basis must be established by each individual laboratory.

10.- MATERIAL SAFETY SHEET

NatQal HIV does not contain any hazardous chemical products, nor "substances of concern", nor "substances of very high concern" (SVHC) requiring limit values for exposure monitoring for the workplace and/or the environment according to European Community. Therefore, no safety data sheet is provided because the chemicals concentrations contained in this product do not exceed the thresholds defined in the European Regulation 1907/2006.

11.- LATEST UPDATES

Version / Date	Update
Ve 2 / 08/09/2026	Footnote correction: Correction of inverted product reference numbers

BIBLIOGRAPHIE / REFERENCES

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7. I. Dupont et al. Dépistage génomique viral VHC et VIH-1 : sensibilité observée en routine. Transfusion Clinique et Biologique, Suppl 1, 67s, 2003.
8. A. Assal et al. Comparison of the analytical and operational performance of two viral nucleic test blood screening systems: Procleix Tigris and cobas s201. Transfusion, 49: 289-300, 2009.