

Test	Glandular Fever
Common Abbreviations	Infectious Mononucleosis Monospot Test Paul-Bunnell
Profile	GF
Clinical indication	Glandular Fever/Infectious mononucleosis is caused by the Epstein-Barr virus, which is a member of the herpesvirus family. Symptoms of GF/IM are fever, sore throat and swollen lymph glands. In very rare cases, heart or central nervous system problems may occur
Specimen type	Whole blood
Sample type	Adult: Purple top EDTA Paediatric: Purple top EDTA
Minimum volume	Adult = 4 ml, Paediatric = 1.3 ml
Special precautions	Requests for GF screening must be received within 12 hours of sample collection Please telephone the haematology laboratory if the result is required urgently
Stability	Stability 12 hours at room temperature 48 hours in the fridge 2-8°C
Turn-around time	Turn-around time Routine: 48 hours Urgent: 1 hour
Reference interval	N/A
Limitations	<p>This test is for in vitro diagnostic use only. The test should be used for the detection of Infectious Mononucleosis antibodies in whole blood, serum or plasma specimens only. Neither the quantitative value nor the rate of increase in Infectious Mononucleosis antibody concentration can be determined by this qualitative test.</p> <p>This test will only indicate the presence of Infectious Mononucleosis antibodies in the specimen and should not be used as the sole criteria for the diagnosis of Infectious Mononucleosis. The presence of heterophile antibodies has been demonstrated in other disease state such as; leukaemia, Burkitts lymphoma, rheumatoid arthritis, viral hepatitis and cytomegalovirus infections.</p> <p>As heterophile antibody may persist for several months after recovery, a positive result should not be recorded as indicative of acute infectious mononucleosis in isolation from the clinical and haematological information</p>