

Parainfluenza Virus

General:

Human parainfluenza viruses (HPIVs) are a group of four distinct serotypes of single-stranded RNA viruses belonging to the *paramyxovirus* family. They are the second most common cause of lower respiratory tract infection in younger children. Together, the parainfluenza viruses cause 75% of the cases of croup.

Three clinically relevant serotypes exist: HPIV-1 (most common cause of croup; also other upper and lower respiratory tract infections), HPIV-2 (causes croup and other upper and lower respiratory infections). HPIV-3 (associated with bronchiolitis and pneumonia).

Repeated infections are not uncommon. The incubation period of all four serotypes is 1 to 7 days. In immunosuppressed patients, such as transplant patients, parainfluenza virus infections can cause severe pneumonia, which is often fatal.

The following tests are available:

- **Parainfluenza type 1-4 IgA antibodies**

Material: 1 ml serum

TAT: 5-7 days*

Method: EIA

Units: index

Ref.- range: <8.5

- **Parainfluenza type 1-4 IgG antibodies**

Material: 1 ml serum

TAT: 5-7 days*

Method: EIA

Units: IU/ml

Ref.- range: Negative <16 ; Positive >22

For complete list of laboratory test offered at Freiburg Medical Laboratory, please visit <http://www.fml-dubai.com/parameter-listings/>