

Why should I continue to request PCR tests?



If someone wrongly believes you are infected with HIV, you could face stigma, discrimination and/or other problems, such as:

- Limitations to medical or dental care
- Employment restrictions
- Difficulty with obtaining insurance
- Rejection of a visa application for travelling
- Inability to donate blood or organs.

It is important you inform your doctor that you have been in an investigational clinical trial of a vaccine against HIV, so they obtain the correct PCR test, to show your true HIV status. This will be at **no expense** to you.

Can VISP antibodies be passed from one person to another?



You cannot pass VISP antibodies to another person by kissing or through sexual contact.

If you are pregnant, there is a chance that you may pass the VISP antibodies to your baby. These antibodies are not harmful to the baby and disappear over time.



- Please contact your healthcare provider if you need HIV testing
- Inform your healthcare provider that you participated in an investigational clinical trial for a vaccine against HIV
- Provide him/her with information on the VISP Testing Service. You and your healthcare provider can find more information via:

www.visptesting.com

VISP
Testing Service

janssen  Infectious Diseases
& Vaccines
PHARMACEUTICAL COMPANIES OF *Johnson & Johnson*

VISP
HIV testing
service

Information
Brochure

VISP
Testing Service



Understanding HIV testing



HIV (human immunodeficiency virus) is a virus that damages cells in a person's immune system and weakens the ability to fight everyday infections and disease. When someone is exposed to HIV their body makes antibodies against parts of HIV.

Testing for such antibodies is the type of blood test normally used to determine if someone has HIV.

Vaccines are designed to help the body make antibodies against viruses. If you have received a research vaccine against HIV as part of an investigational clinical trial, you may now have antibodies against HIV in your blood.

This means a standard HIV antibody test could come back **positive** for several years even though you are not infected with the HIV virus. This is called a **VISP** (Vaccine-Induced Sero-Positive) or **VISR** (Vaccine-Induced Sero-Reactive) test result.



Adults who have received an investigational clinical trial vaccine against HIV require an HIV test based on polymerase chain reaction (PCR).

PCR tests can detect very early HIV infections before antibodies develop and can distinguish true HIV infection from VISP. They are the most accurate tests but not routinely offered.



How do I request a PCR test?



The Parexel VISP Testing Service offers PCR testing through your usual doctor, at no expense for you. Please share this information brochure with them and direct them to the VISP Testing Service website:



www.visptesting.com

On the website, your doctor will find a link to register to the MyAccess portal to request your PCR test kit. Full instructions will be provided on the portal. **You cannot access the portal yourself.**



How long does the testing service take to provide test results?



Once the test has been performed, it takes approximately 2 weeks for the results to be shared with your healthcare provider.



How long will I have access to this testing service?

The VISP Testing Service will be available for as long as you require this specific PCR HIV testing.



What happens if I move away from where I participated in the HIV vaccine trial?

You will still be able to access the VISP Testing Service if you move to another country. Please advise your new doctor to visit www.visptesting.com for more information.



Will my information be kept confidential?



Yes. Your doctor will register you on a website specifically developed for the purpose of requesting the PCR tests, which is a secure computer database. You can find additional information relating to the processing of your data, including how to launch a complaint, on the VISP Testing Service website.

Please note that your blood sample (for the VISP Testing Service) may be tested in a laboratory outside your home country. Once the test has been performed, your sample will be destroyed.



How can I explain VISP to other healthcare providers?



If a healthcare provider asks you to provide a sample for an HIV test, tell them you have been in an investigational clinical trial for an HIV vaccine. This means that you have specific requirements for PCR HIV testing. Explain that being tested using standard tests could result in an incorrect diagnosis of HIV infection.