

Name of the Test

Cytomegalovirus (CMV) Test

Alternative Name

CMV IgG and IgM

What this test is used for?

Cytomegalovirus is a member of the herpesvirus family. It infects people of all ages and is very common. Usually, in most healthy people CMV does not cause any symptoms or health problems. It will remain in the body in a latent form for life.

People with CMV may pass the virus in body fluids, such as saliva, urine, blood, tears, semen, and breast milk. CMV is spread from an infected person in the following ways:

- ✓ From direct contact with saliva or urine, especially from babies and young children
- ✓ Through sexual contact
- ✓ From breast milk to nursing infants
- ✓ Through transplanted organs and blood transfusions

Why the CMV IgG and CMV IgM Tests are performed?

- ✓ To diagnose a current, past or reactivated cytomegalovirus (CMV) infection.

When to get tested?

- When a pregnant woman or an immune-compromised person has flu-like symptoms or Mononucleosis, such as the Epstein-Barr virus that suggest a CMV infection:
 - ✓ Fatigue, Weakness
 - ✓ Sore throat
 - ✓ Swelling in your lymph nodes
 - ✓ Fever
 - ✓ Headache
 - ✓ Muscle aches
- When a newborn has congenital abnormalities, unexplained jaundice or anemia, and/or when an infant has seizures, enlarged spleen or liver, hearing or vision problems or developmental problems that may be due to CMV;
- Prior to receiving an organ transplant
- Organ donors

How the Test is Performed and How to Prepare for the Test?

A blood sample is drawn from a vein. No special preparation is needed for this test.

Interpretation of results:

IgM - Negative suggests that the patient is not experiencing acute or active infection.

IgM – Positive results indicate a recent infection (primary, reactivation, or reinfection).

IgG – Negative means absence of current or prior infection.

IgG – Positive results indicate past or recent CMV infection.

The test results must be interpreted by a doctor.