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Technical Tip 04

ZEUS AtheNA Multi-Lyte® Test System

Subject: Invalid NSC Samples on the AtheNA Multi-Lyte® EBV VCA IgM Test System (Part Number A92101M)

Each AtheNA Multi-Lyte® Test System contains a bead mix which includes a non-specific control (NSC) bead designed to measure non-specific interactions. If there is too much activity on the NSC bead, *Intra-Well Calibration Technology*® will invalidate that particular result. The most likely cause of an invalid result in the AtheNA Multi-Lyte® EBV VCA IgM test system is due to the excess amount of RF IgM antibody in the serum sample. If excessive levels are detected, one will obtain an "INV NSC" result. Please see *Technical Tip 03* for more information on INV NSC results.

*How should Invalid NSC samples be handled on the AtheNA Multi-Lyte® EBV VCA IgM Test System?**

***Information listed below is based on the procedure outlined in the EBV VCA IgM Test System package insert.**

Specimens that generate an INV NSC should be repeated. If upon repeating the specimens an INV NSC result is again generated, one may test the specimens using another methodology, or may retest the specimens using the modified protocol outlined below for the AtheNA Multi-Lyte® EBV VCA IgM Test System:

1. Obtain ZEUS ELISA IgM Sample Diluent (Product Number 005M), from your ZEUS distributor.

2. Begin the assay as outlined in the standard "Assay Procedure" of the AtheNA Multi-Lyte® EBV VCA IgM Test System package insert; however, dilute the INV NSC samples in the 005M Diluent at 1:21 instead of the SAVe® diluent provided with the test system.

3. Incubate the INV NSC samples diluted in the 005M diluent for 30 ± 5 minutes at room temperature.

4. Centrifuge the samples (5000 – 7000 rpm) for 5-10 minutes to pellet the precipitate.

5. Add 10µL of the centrifuged, diluted sample to the EBV IgM bead mix in the filter plate and proceed with the next step of the procedure in the AtheNA Multi-Lyte® EBV IgM Test System.
    a. Note: All other samples not affected by the INV NSC result, including controls, should be diluted using the SAVe® diluent following the "Assay Procedures" of the package insert.

6. Upon completion of the assay, the test system quality control must meet its respective acceptance criteria as outlined in the package insert. Results may be reported for those specimens that no longer generate INV NSC results.

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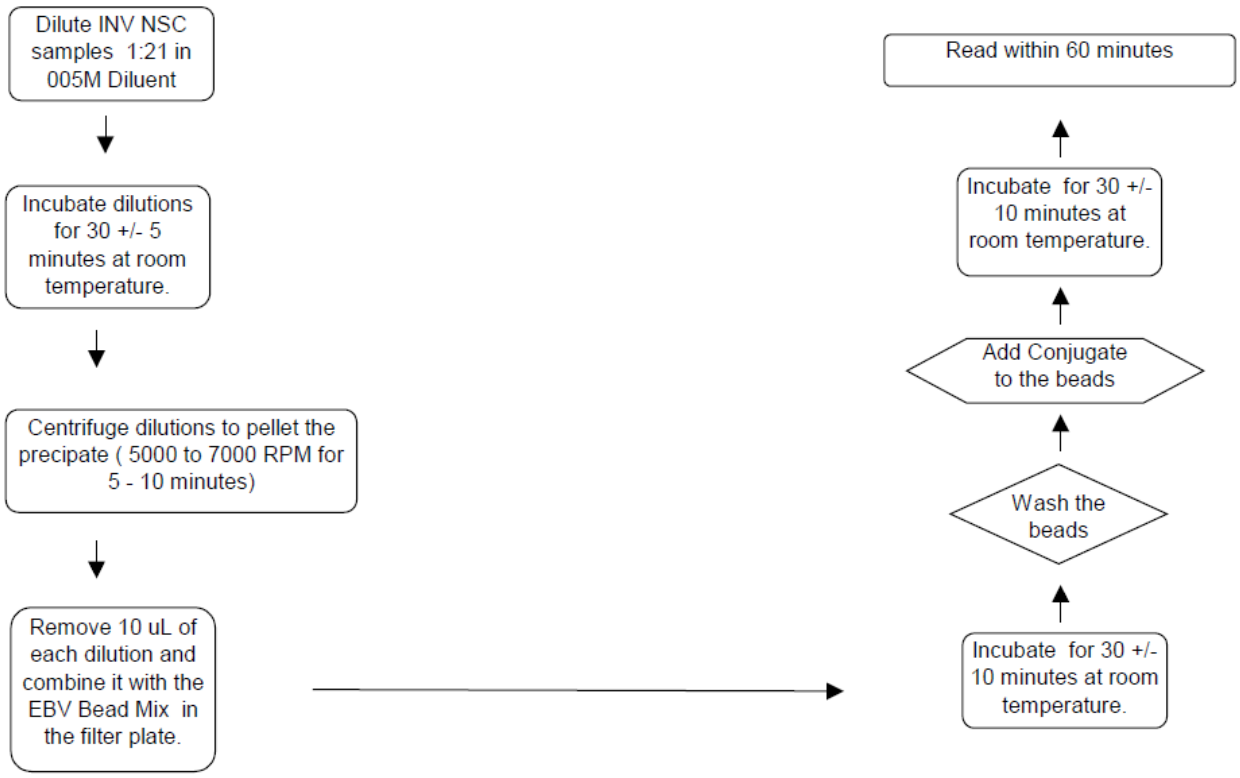
Optional procedure for testing samples that were previously found to be INV NSC



If the sample continues to generate an Invalid NSC result, contact the regional distributor for additional technical support.