Aim

The aim of this work is to analyse the consistency between demand, on the one hand, and good practice guidelines and the views of professionals on the other, with a view to including gene amplification (PCR) for the cytomegalovirus (CMV), herpes simplex virus (HSV) and varicella-zoster virus (VZV) through genetic amplification in the diagnosis and treatment of opportunistic diseases in people living with HIV on the list of clinical laboratory procedures reimbursed by the National Health Insurance system in France.

Conclusions and results

This work reports on the homogeneity between demand, on the one hand, and conclusions from the analysed guidelines and the view of professional bodies on the other. HAS concludes that gene amplification testing (PCR) for CMV, HSV, VZV has a place in the diagnosis and treatment of opportunistic diseases in people living with HIV. CMV PCR is mainly indicated in ocular lesions during cancer treatment in people living with HIV with a positive CMV serological test. HSV PCR is mainly indicated in atypical mucocutaneous and ocular lesions. VZV PCR is mainly indicated in atypical cutaneous and ocular lesions.

Methods

The method selected is a short assessment procedure involving:

- critical analysis of good practice guidelines identified by a literature search;
- collecting the well-argued views of the professional bodies concerned (infectious disease medicine, laboratory medicine, ophthalmology, dermatology, internal medicine);
- identifying consistencies between the data collected in this way (good practice guidelines and the well-argued views of professional bodies) and the request;

summarising this material in a proposal submitted directly to the HAS Board for validation.

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