**MOLECULAR DETECTION OF HUMAN PAPILLOMAVIRUS (HPV) IN THE OROPHARYNX**

### Test Results

| **HPV Detection** | **Negative** |

### Interpretation:

This sample is negative for HPV DNA. These results do not exclude the possibility of HPV not detected due to sampling or assay sensitivity. See comments.

### Comments:

- **Significance:** The presence of HPV in the oropharyngeal tract is considered a precursor for the development of squamous epithelial dysplasia or neoplasia. In the absence of this risk factor other causes of oral cancer should be considered including the use of tobacco, alcohol and the individual's immune status. The diagnosis of dysplasia and cancer are based on the morphologic assessment of a specimen obtained from biopsy.

- **Risk:** Based on this result, HPV does not contribute to an increased risk of the development of cancers of the oropharyngeal tract.

- **Consider:** No specific recommendations are sanctioned at this time. However, if the clinical history or observations suggest residual risk, repeat testing may be indicated in the future.

### Methodology:

Genomic DNA was extracted and amplified by polymerase chain reaction (PCR) using consensus oligonucleotide primers specific for the L1 region of the human papillomavirus (HPV) genome. Samples positive for HPV DNA were then subjected to digestion with a series of restriction endonuclease enzymes. The resulting DNA fragments were analyzed by methods of automated microcapillary electrophoresis. A series of digital electropherograms and rendered gel images were generated, the results interpreted by matching of resulting display of DNA fragments to the restriction patterns of known and validated HPV types. The analytic sensitivity of this assay for the detection of HPV has been validated to be 37.1 genome copies/reaction.

### References: