

# Evaluation of the Analytical Performance of the HIV Antigen/Antibody Combo Assay on the Atellica CI Analyzer

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## Background

Testing for human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) is essential for early detection and timely linkage to care, which are integral components of the global commitment to maintaining low HIV incidence.<sup>1,2</sup> Combined HIV antigen/antibody tests, known as “fourth-generation” assay(s), can detect HIV p24 antigen and antibodies to HIV-1 and HIV-2, including group M and group O infections. These serological assays are recommended for assessing HIV infection as they offer enhanced detection of acute/early infection, which might be missed by antibody-only tests.<sup>3</sup>

The Atellica IM HIV Ag/Ab Combo (CHIV) assay was previously developed and commercialized for use on the Atellica IM Analyzer.<sup>4</sup>

For over three years, the Atellica CI Analyzer (Figure 1) has been part of the Atellica Solution portfolio, offering a reduced footprint of 1.9 square meters. It is an integrated clinical chemistry and immunoassay analyzer designed for low- to mid-volume laboratories and features the same reagents,\* consumables,\* and sophisticated user interface as the Atellica IM Analyzer.<sup>5</sup>

To evaluate the analytical performance of the Atellica IM assays using this recent analyzer, precision and method comparison (MC) were assessed as performance indicators for the Atellica IM CHIV assay on the Atellica CI Analyzer.



Figure 1. The Atellica CI Analyzer

## Material and Methods

### Assay design

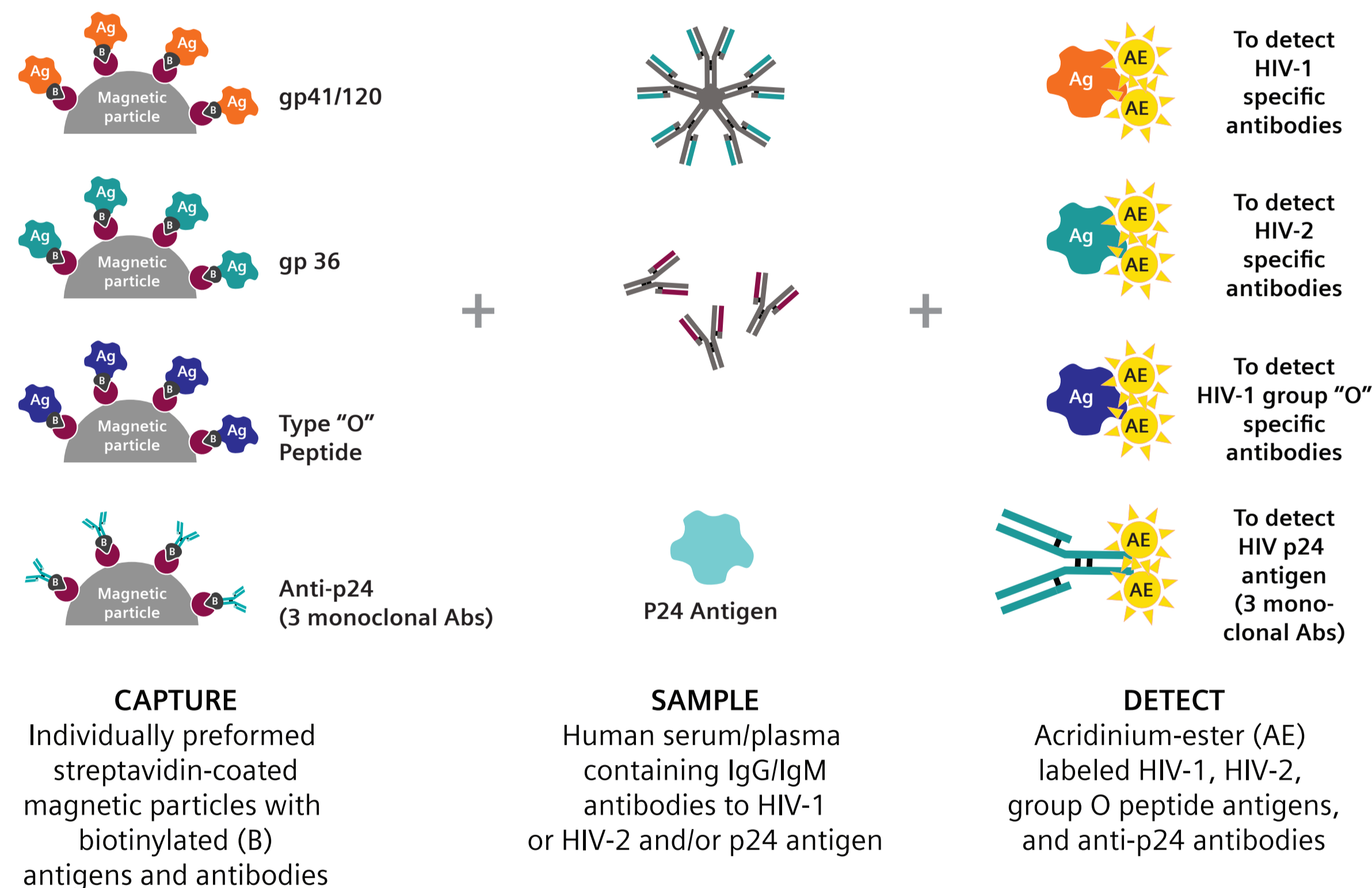


Figure 2. CHIV Combo Assay Antigen/Antibody Sandwich Format

### Precision (CLSI EP05-A3)

- Sample types: native and contrived human serum pools spiked with individual human HIV-positive serum samples, and quality control (QC) samples (detailed in Table 1).
- One aliquot/sample; tested in duplicate; two runs/day >2 hours apart for 20 days.
- One reagent lot; two analyzers; total n = 80 replicates for each system/lot combination.
- One representative system/lot combination result across all lot and system combinations tested is shown (Table 1).
- Each testing day, new frozen aliquots were thawed and used for each run. Calibrators and QC materials were handled according to the manufacturer’s instructions; two calibration events for 20-day-precision study.

### Method comparison (CLSI EP12-A2)

- MC was evaluated using individual native serum samples stored frozen in aliquots at ≤20°C. Samples were thawed and centrifugated before tested on the Atellica CI Analyzer, the ADVIA Centaur XP system (parent analyzer), and the Atellica IM Analyzer using two reagent lots.
- Samples (n=215) were acquired from Siemens approved vendors from HIV-1 positive individuals and negative normal individuals.
- MC was completed over 6 nonconsecutive days using a single calibration event.
- One representative system/lot combination result across all lot and system combinations tested is presented (Table 2 & 3).
- One replicate was processed per sample.
- Samples were classified, using 1.00 Index cutoff, as reactive (Index ≥1.00) or nonreactive (Index <1.00) specimens for the presence of antibodies to HIV-1 (including group “O”) and/or HIV-2 and/or p24 antigen.
- Relative sensitivity, relative specificity, and overall agreement are reported and were calculated as followed:

Atellica CI Result	Atellica IM (or ADVIA Centaur XP) Result		Relative sensitivity = 100 × A / (A + C) Relative specificity = 100 × D / (B + D) Overall Percent Agreement = 100 × (A + D) / (A + B + C + D)
	Reactive	Nonreactive	
Reactive	A	B	
Nonreactive	C	D	

## Results

### Precision

Table 1. Precision for the Atellica IM CHIV assay on the Atellica CI Analyzer

Specimen Type	Mean (n=80) (Index)	Repeatability		Within-laboratory Precision	
		SD (Index)	CV (%)	SD (Index)	CV (%)
Serum A	0.16	0.012	7.5*	0.014	8.8*
Serum B	0.72	0.026	3.6	0.030	4.2
Serum C	1.17	0.038	3.2	0.042	3.6
Serum D	1.48	0.023	1.6	0.045	3.0
Serum E	2.76	0.060	2.2	0.157	5.7
Serum F	2.93	0.068	2.3	0.123	4.2
Serum G	3.38	0.069	2.0	0.107	3.2
Serum H	4.92	0.077	1.6	0.152	3.1
Serum I	4.92	0.079	1.6	0.180	3.7
QC 1	0.26	0.015	5.8*	0.016	6.2*
QC 2	2.41	0.038	1.6	0.089	3.7
QC 3	2.94	0.046	1.6	0.083	2.8
QC 4	3.07	0.052	1.7	0.140	4.6
QC 5	4.99	0.097	1.9	0.120	2.4

\*For information only, highest %CVs observed in samples without the analyte do not have any clinical impact as there was no change in the qualitative interpretation across all 80 negative sample results that remained nonreactive throughout the study. Serum A, Negative serum; Serum B, HIV-1 high-negative; Serum C, HIV-1 positive; Serum D, HIV-2 positive; Serum E, HIV-1 Group O positive; Serum F, HIV-p24 positive; Serum G, HIV-2 positive; Serum H, HIV-1 positive; Serum I, HIV-p24 positive. Processed human plasma nonreactive for HIV (QC 1), reactive for HIV-1 (QC 2), reactive for HIV-2 (QC 3), reactive for HIV-1 Group O (QC 4), and reactive for HIV-1 p24 antigen (QC 5).

The Atellica IM CHIV assay on the Atellica CI Analyzer demonstrated ≤7.5% repeatability CV and ≤8.8% within-laboratory precision CV across the sample interval tested (0.16- 4.99 Index).

### Method Comparison

Table 2. Qualitative method comparison for the Atellica IM CHIV assay on the Atellica IM and Atellica CI Analyzers

1.00 Index Cutoff	Atellica IM CHIV on the Atellica IM Analyzer			Relative sensitivity: 100% (105/105); 95% confidence interval: 96.47–100% Relative specificity: 100% (110/110); 95% confidence interval: 96.95–100% Overall agreement: 100% (215/215); 95% confidence interval: 98.25–100%
	Reactive	Nonreactive	Total	
Atellica IM CHIV on the Atellica CI Analyzer	105	0	105	
	0	110	110	
Total	105	110	215	

Table 3. Qualitative method comparison for the CHIV assay on the Atellica CI Analyzer and ADVIA Centaur XP system

1.00 Index Cutoff	ADVIA Centaur CHIV on the ADVIA Centaur XP system			Relative sensitivity: 100% (104/104); 95% confidence interval: 96.44–100% Relative specificity: 100% (109/109); 95% confidence interval: 96.60–100% Overall agreement: 100% (213/213); 95% confidence interval: 98.23–100%
	Reactive	Nonreactive	Total	
Atellica IM CHIV on the Atellica CI Analyzer	104	0	104	
	0	109	109	
Total	104	109	213	

Two samples out of the 215 above mentioned samples could not be evaluated on ADVIA Centaur XP system due to insufficient volume.

The design requirements for method comparison were met with a 100% relative specificity and 100% relative sensitivity when comparing the Atellica IM CHIV assay using the Atellica CI Analyzer to the Atellica IM Analyzer, as well as to the ADVIA Centaur CHIV assay using the ADVIA Centaur XP system. No discordant results were observed between the compared devices.

## Conclusion

All results indicate that the Atellica IM CHIV assay demonstrated comparable analytical performance for the serological determination of antibodies to HIV-1 (including group “O”) and/or HIV-2 and/or p24 antigen when tested on the Atellica CI Analyzer. In addition, strong qualitative agreement was observed between the assay on the Atellica CI Analyzer and the Atellica IM Analyzer. Altogether, these results support that the Atellica CI Analyzer has comparable performance capability to the Atellica IM Analyzer.

## References

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