

Cytomegalovirus Drug Resistance by Next Generation Sequencing, Ganciclovir, Foscarnet, Cidofovir, Maribavir, and Letermovir

Last Literature Review: May 2025 Last Update: September 2025

Cytomegalovirus (CMV) is a common infection among both children and adults that is generally asymptomatic in infected immunocompetent children and adults, but can lead to serious complications in neonates, pregnant individuals, immunocompromised individuals, and transplant recipients.¹ Next generation sequencing can be used to test for CMV antiviral resistance with greater sensitivity to detect resistant subpopulations than traditional Sanger sequencing.² This test sequences resistance-associated mutations in the *UL27*, *UL54*, *UL56*, and *UL97* genes to assess resistance to ganciclovir, foscarnet, cidofovir, maribavir, and letermovir.

Featured ARUP Testing

[Cytomegalovirus Drug Resistance by Next Generation Sequencing, Ganciclovir, Foscarnet, Cidofovir, Maribavir, and Letermovir 3004615](#)

Method: Massively Parallel Sequencing

Provides antiviral susceptibility information for ganciclovir, foscarnet, cidofovir, maribavir, and letermovir. Intended for patients with viral load >2.6 log IU/mL.

The reference sequence for CMV antiviral resistance testing is Merlin strain genbank ID NC_006273.

Test Interpretation

Limitations

- Specimens with viral loads <2.6 log IU/mL may fail to amplify, thus producing indeterminate results.
- This test detects populations down to 10% of the total population, which may account for resistance interpretation differences between methods.

Evaluated Mutations

| UL27 Variants | | | | | | | |
|---------------|---------|-----------|-------------|-----------|------------|--------------------------|------------|
| Variant | Cidovir | Foscarnet | Ganciclovir | Maribavir | Letermovir | Confirmed by Phenotyping | References |
| A269T | — | — | — | P | — | Y | 3 |
| A406V | — | — | — | P | — | Y | 3, 4 |
| C415* | — | — | — | P | — | Y | 3, 4 |
| D534Y | — | — | — | P | — | Y | 5 |
| E22* | — | — | — | P | — | Y | 3 |
| K89N | — | — | — | S | — | Y | 6 |
| L193F | — | — | — | P | — | Y | 3 |
| L335P | — | — | — | R | — | Y | 3, 7 |
| L426F | — | — | — | P | — | Y | 3 |
| R233S | — | — | — | P | — | Y | 4,5 |
| R448P | — | — | — | P | — | Y | 5 |
| V353E | — | — | — | P | — | Y | 3 |
| W153R | — | — | — | P | — | Y | 3 |
| W362* | — | — | — | P | — | Y | 3 |
| W362R | — | — | — | P | — | Y | 4 |

| UL54 Variants | | | | | | | |
|---------------|---------|-----------|-------------|-----------|------------|--------------------------|---|
| Variant | Cidovir | Foscarnet | Ganciclovir | Maribavir | Letermovir | Confirmed by Phenotyping | References |
| 883-884ins | — | — | — | — | — | N | 8 |
| 981-982del | R | R | R | — | — | Y | 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19 |
| A505V | P | S | P | — | — | Y | 8, 15 |
| A543P | R | S | R | — | — | Y | 16, 20 |
| A809V | P | R | R | — | — | Y | 10, 11, 12, 15, 19, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25 |
| A834P | R | R | R | — | — | Y | 14, 15, 26 |
| A987G | R | S | R | — | — | Y | 10, 15, 19, 27, 28, 29, 30 |
| A987V | S | R | S | — | — | Y | 18, 19 |
| C524del | R | S | R | — | — | Y | 15, 31 |
| C539G | R | S | R | — | — | Y | 15, 32 |
| C539R | R | S | R | — | — | Y | 33, 34 |
| C590F | S | R | S | — | — | Y | 35 |
| D301N | R | S | R | — | — | Y | 11, 12, 15, 19 |
| D413A | R | S | R | — | — | Y | 14, 15, 36 |
| D413E | R | S | R | — | — | Y | 10, 11, 12, 14 15, 28, 37, 38 |
| D413N | R | S | R | — | — | Y | 15, 32 |
| D413Y | R | S | R | — | — | Y | 15, 39 |
| D515E | P | P | R | — | — | Y | 10, 40, 41 |
| D515G | S | S | S | — | — | Y | 11 |
| D515Y | P | P | R | — | — | Y | 15, 16, 17, 19, 41 |
| D542E | R | S | S | — | — | Y | 15, 42 |
| D588E | S | R | S | — | — | Y | 10, 28, 30 |
| D588N | P | R | R | — | — | Y | 12, 15, 23, 28, 43 |
| D594N | S | S | S | — | — | Y | 18 |
| E303D | R | S | R | — | — | Y | 15, 39 |
| E303G | R | S | R | — | — | Y | 15, 39 |
| E756D | S | R | S | — | — | Y | 11, 12, 15 |
| E756G | S | R | S | — | — | Y | 44 |
| E756K | P | R | R | — | S | Y | 11, 12, 15, 23, 28, 45, 46, 47, 48 |
| E756Q | S | R | S | — | — | Y | 12, 15, 21, 49 |
| E951D | S | R | R | — | — | Y | 15, 24 |
| E989D | P | R | R | — | — | Y | 18 |
| F412C | R | S | R | — | — | Y | 10, 12, 15, 19, 30, 50 |
| F412L | R | S | R | — | — | Y | 15, 19, 23 |

| Variant | Cidovir | Foscarnet | Ganciclovir | Maribavir | Letermovir | Confirmed by Phenotyping | References |
|---------|---------|-----------|-------------|-----------|------------|--------------------------|--|
| F412S | R | S | R | — | — | Y | 15, 23, 34, 51 |
| F412V | R | S | R | — | — | Y | 10, 15, 28, 30 |
| F595I | S | R | S | — | — | Y | 15, 33, 34 |
| G841A | R | R | R | — | — | Y | 14, 15, 22 |
| G841S | S | P | P | — | — | Y | 8 |
| G971D | S | S | S | — | — | Y | 11 |
| H600L | R | R | R | — | — | Y | 44 |
| I521T | R | S | R | — | — | Y | 15, 40, 52 |
| I722V | R | S | R | — | — | N | 10 |
| I726T | P | S | P | — | — | Y | 8, 15 |
| I726V | R | S | R | — | — | Y | 8, 15 |
| K493N | R | R | R | — | — | Y | 18 |
| K500N | R | S | R | — | — | Y | 15, 33, 34 |
| K513E | R | S | R | — | — | Y | 10, 12, 15, 28, 30 |
| K513N | R | S | R | — | — | Y | 10, 12, 15, 28, 37, 53, 54 |
| K513Q | R | S | R | — | — | Y | 35 |
| K513R | R | S | R | — | — | Y | 10, 15, 19, 32 |
| K513T | R | S | R | — | — | Y | 18 |
| K805Q | R | S | S | — | — | Y | 10, 15, 21, 22, 30 |
| L501F | R | S | R | — | — | Y | 10, 28, 35, 37, 51, 55 |
| L501I | R | S | R | — | — | Y | 10, 12, 15, 28, 30, 56 |
| L516M | S | S | S | — | — | Y | 57 |
| L516P | R | S | R | — | — | Y | 17, 19 |
| L516R | R | S | R | — | — | Y | 11, 12, 15 |
| L516W | R | S | R | — | — | Y | 15, 58 |
| L545F | R | S | R | — | — | Y | 35 |
| L545S | R | S | R | — | — | Y | 10, 12, 15, 30, 33, 59 |
| L545W | R | S | R | — | — | Y | 15, 19, 23, 34 |
| L565V | P | R | P | — | — | Y | 18 |
| L773V | R | R | R | — | — | Y | 15, 32, 60 |
| L776M | S | R | R | — | — | Y | 14, 15, 61 |
| L802M | S | R | P | — | — | Y | 12, 14, 15, 21, 28, 30, 33, 43, 50, 59 |
| L802V | S | S | P | — | — | Y | 33 |
| L862F | S | S | P | — | — | Y | 33 |
| L897P | — | — | S | — | — | Y | 62 |
| L957F | S | S | R | — | — | Y | 15, 33, 34 |

| Variant | Cidovir | Foscarnet | Ganciclovir | Maribavir | Letermovir | Confirmed by Phenotyping | References |
|---------|---------|-----------|-------------|-----------|------------|--------------------------|------------------------------------|
| M393K | R | R | R | — | — | N | 10, 63 |
| M393R | R | R | R | — | — | N | 10, 63 |
| M844T | S | R | S | — | — | Y | 15, 64 |
| M844V | S | R | R | — | — | Y | 15, 64 |
| N408D | R | S | R | — | — | Y | 10, 12, 15, 19, 28, 30, 33, 59, 65 |
| N408H | R | S | R | — | — | Y | 35 |
| N408K | R | S | R | — | — | Y | 15, 19, 23, 26, 39 |
| N408S | R | S | R | — | — | Y | 15, 31, 66 |
| N410K | R | S | R | — | — | Y | 11, 15, 19 |
| N495K | S | R | S | — | — | Y | 14, 15, 24, 67 |
| P488R | R | S | R | — | — | Y | 32, 33 |
| P497S | R | S | P | — | — | Y | 18 |
| P522A | R | S | R | — | — | Y | 10, 15, 52 |
| P522S | R | S | R | — | — | Y | 10, 15, 19, 23, 30, 52 |
| P522T | R | S | R | — | — | Y | 35 |
| P829S | S | S | R | — | — | Y | 15, 33, 34 |
| Q578H | R | R | R | — | — | Y | 15, 19, 23, 34, 60 |
| Q578L | S | P | P | — | — | Y | 8, 15 |
| Q783R | S | P | P | — | — | Y | 24 |
| Q807A | — | R | — | — | — | Y | 21 |
| R1052C | S | S | S | — | — | Y | 68 |
| S290R | S | R | P | — | — | Y | 15, 24 |
| S585A | S | R | S | — | — | Y | 15, 33, 34 |
| T419M | — | R | S | — | — | N | 60 |
| T503A | R | S | R | — | — | Y | 35 |
| T503I | R | S | R | — | — | Y | 10, 11, 12, 14, 15 |
| T552N | S | R | R | — | — | Y | 15, 24, 33, 34 |
| T700A | P | R | S | — | — | Y | 10, 12, 15, 19, 21, 25, 30, 69 |
| T813S | R | R | R | — | — | Y | 14, 15, 22 |
| T821I | S | R | R | — | — | Y | 10, 12, 14, 15, 21, 30 |
| T838A | S | R | S | — | — | Y | 14, 15, 43 |
| V526L | R | S | R | — | — | Y | 15, 46 |
| V715A | S | R | S | — | — | Y | 15, 58 |
| V715M | S | R | S | — | — | Y | 10, 12, 15, 21, 25, 30, 49, 69 |
| V781I | S | R | P | — | — | Y | 15, 23, 28, 30 |
| V787A | S | R | R | — | — | Y | 15, 41, 48 |

| Variant | Cidovir | Foscarnet | Ganciclovir | Maribavir | Letermovir | Confirmed by Phenotyping | References |
|---------|---------|-----------|-------------|-----------|------------|--------------------------|------------------------------------|
| V787E | R | R | R | — | — | Y | 20, 48 |
| V787I | — | R | — | — | — | N | 12 |
| V787L | S | R | R | — | — | Y | 14, 15, 21, 33, 49, 70 |
| V812L | R | R | R | — | — | Y | 10, 12, 14, 15, 21, 33, 39, 43, 54 |
| V823A | R | S | R | — | — | Y | 18 |
| V946L | S | R | S | — | — | Y | 15, 33, 34 |
| Y751H | R | S | R | — | — | N | 10 |

| UL56 Variants | | | | | | | |
|---------------|---------|-----------|-------------|-----------|------------|--------------------------|----------------|
| Variant | Cidovir | Foscarnet | Ganciclovir | Maribavir | Letermovir | Confirmed by Phenotyping | References |
| A365S | — | — | — | — | R | Y | 16, 20 |
| C25F | — | — | — | — | R | Y | 16 |
| C325F | — | — | — | — | R | Y | 71, 72 |
| C325R | — | — | — | — | R | Y | 71, 72 |
| C325W | — | — | — | — | R | Y | 16, 72 |
| C325Y | — | — | — | — | R | Y | 16, 71, 72, 73 |
| E237D | — | — | — | — | R | Y | 71, 72, 74 |
| E237G | S | S | — | — | R | Y | 72, 75 |
| F261C | — | — | — | — | R | Y | 71, 72 |
| F261L | — | — | — | — | R | Y | 71, 72, 74 |
| F261S | — | — | — | — | R | N | 72 |
| K258E | — | — | — | — | R | Y | 74 |
| L241P | — | — | — | — | R | Y | 71, 73, 76, 77 |
| L254F | — | — | — | — | R | Y | 20, 77 |
| L257F | — | — | — | — | R | Y | 16, 20, 77 |
| L257I | — | — | — | — | R | Y | 71, 72 |
| L328V | — | — | — | — | R | Y | 16, 20 |
| M329T | — | — | — | — | R | Y | 71, 72, 74 |
| N232Y | — | — | — | — | R | Y | 74 |
| N368D | — | — | — | — | R | Y | 20, 77 |
| Q204R | — | — | — | — | P | Y | 74 |
| R369G | — | — | — | — | R | Y | 72, 73 |
| R369M | — | — | — | — | R | Y | 72, 73, 77 |
| R369S | — | — | — | — | R | Y | 72, 73, 76 |
| R369T | S | S | S | — | R | Y | 20, 75 |
| S229F | — | — | — | — | R | Y | 20, 77 |
| T244K | — | — | — | — | R | Y | 71, 72 |

| Variant | Cidovir | Foscarnet | Ganciclovir | Maribavir | Letermovir | Confirmed by Phenotyping | References |
|----------------------|---------|-----------|-------------|-----------|------------|--------------------------|--------------------------------|
| T244R | — | — | — | — | R | N | 72 |
| V231A | — | — | — | — | R | Y | 71, 72 |
| V231L | — | — | — | — | R | Y | 16, 71, 72, 73, 77 |
| V236A | — | — | — | — | R | Y | 16, 20 |
| V236L | — | — | — | — | R | Y | 71, 72 |
| V236M | S | S | S | — | R | Y | 16, 47, 72, 73, 77, 78 |
| Y321C | — | — | — | — | R | Y | 71, 72 |
| <i>UL97 Variants</i> | | | | | | | |
| Variant | Cidovir | Foscarnet | Ganciclovir | Maribavir | Letermovir | Confirmed by Phenotyping | References |
| 590-593del | S | S | R | — | — | Y | 10, 59 |
| 590-600del | — | — | R | — | — | N | 10, 79 |
| 590-603del | — | — | R | — | — | N | 10, 37 |
| 590-607del | — | — | R | — | — | N | 15 |
| 591-594del | — | — | R | — | — | Y | 10, 12, 80, 81 |
| 591-607del | — | — | R | — | — | Y | 10, 82 |
| 595-603del | — | S | R | — | — | Y | 10, 12, 70, 81, 83 |
| 597-598del | — | — | R | — | — | Y | 15, 81 |
| 597-599del | — | — | R | — | — | Y | 58, 81 |
| 597-603del | — | — | — | — | — | N | 51 |
| 600-601del | — | — | R | — | — | Y | 10, 15, 70, 81 |
| 601-602del | — | — | R | — | — | Y | 15, 81 |
| 601-603del | S | S | R | — | — | Y | 36, 81 |
| A590T | — | — | R | — | — | N | 10, 80, 84 |
| A591D | — | — | R | — | — | N | 10, 80, 84 |
| A591V | — | — | R | — | — | Y | 15, 16, 81 |
| A594E | — | — | R | — | — | Y | 14, 15, 85 |
| A594G | — | — | R | — | — | Y | 15, 66, 86 |
| A594P | — | — | R | — | — | Y | 10, 35, 51, 87, 88 |
| A594S | — | — | R | — | — | Y | 20, 89 |
| A594T | — | — | R | — | — | Y | 12, 15, 45, 58, 80, 82, 90, 91 |

| Variant | Cidovir | Foscarnet | Ganciclovir | Maribavir | Letermovir | Confirmed by Phenotyping | References |
|---------|---------|-----------|-------------|-----------|------------|--------------------------|--|
| A594V | — | — | R | — | — | Y | 12, 13, 15, 51, 69, 79, 80, 81, 87, 90, 92 |
| A606D | — | — | P | — | — | N | 10, 80, 84 |
| A613V | — | — | R | — | — | Y | 15, 57, 66 |
| A619V | — | — | S | — | — | Y | 15, 58 |
| A674T | — | — | S | — | — | Y | 15, 93 |
| C480F | — | — | R | R | — | Y | 18, 20 |
| C480R | — | — | R | R | — | Y | 15, 94 |
| C518Y | — | — | R | — | — | Y | 15, 66, 95 |
| C592F | — | — | R | — | — | N | 10 |
| C592G | S | S | R | — | — | Y | 12, 13, 15, 18, 24, 28, 80, 81, 82, 87, 92 |
| C603R | — | — | R | — | — | Y | 14, 15, 92, 96 |
| C603S | — | — | P | — | — | Y | 14, 15, 85, 92 |
| C603W | S | S | R | — | — | Y | 10, 12, 15, 51, 53, 80, 87, 92 |
| C603Y | — | — | R | — | — | N | 10, 80, 84 |
| C607F | — | — | R | — | — | Y | 10, 15, 82, 90 |
| C607Y | — | S | R | — | — | Y | 9, 12, 15, 51, 80, 82, 97, 98 |
| D456N | — | — | R | R | — | Y | 20, 94 |
| D605E | — | — | S | — | — | Y | 13, 15, 20 |
| E362D | — | — | R | S | — | Y | 99 |
| E596D | — | — | S | — | — | Y | 15, 40 |
| E596G | — | — | R | — | — | Y | 10, 12, 15, 45, 53, 80, 82 |
| E596Q | — | — | R | — | — | Y | 35 |
| E596Y | — | — | R | — | — | Y | 15, 40 |
| E596del | — | — | R | — | — | Y | 15, 81 |
| E655K | — | — | S | — | — | Y | 15, 46 |
| F342S | — | — | R | R | — | Y | 15, 100, 101, 102 |
| F342Y | — | — | R | R | — | Y | 20, 103 |
| G598S | — | — | R | — | — | Y | 10, 12, 104 |
| G598V | — | — | R | — | — | N | 10, 84 |
| H411L | — | — | — | R | — | Y | 5, 20, 105 |
| H411N | — | — | — | R | — | Y | 5, 20, 105 |
| H411Y | — | — | — | R | — | Y | 5, 18, 20, 105 |
| H520Q | S | S | R | — | — | Y | 12, 15, 51, 80, 87, 92 |
| I610T | — | — | R | — | — | Y | 15, 40 |
| K355M | — | — | R | R | — | Y | 15, 94, 100 |

| Variant | Cidovir | Foscarnet | Ganciclovir | Maribavir | Letermovir | Confirmed by Phenotyping | References |
|---------|---------|-----------|-------------|-----------|------------|--------------------------|--|
| K355del | — | — | R | R | — | Y | 100 |
| K359E | — | — | R | S | — | Y | 20, 103 |
| K359N | — | — | R | S | — | Y | 99 |
| K359Q | — | — | R | S | — | Y | 20, 103 |
| K599E | — | — | S | — | — | Y | 15, 81 |
| K599M | — | — | R | — | — | N | 10, 80 |
| K599R | — | — | S | — | — | Y | 15, 85 |
| K599T | S | — | R | — | — | Y | 10, 15, 106 |
| K599del | — | — | R | — | — | Y | 15, 81 |
| L337M | — | — | — | R | — | Y | 5, 20 |
| L348V | — | — | S | R | — | Y | 99 |
| L397R | — | — | S | R | — | Y | 5, 20, 107 |
| L405P | — | — | R | — | — | Y | 15, 85 |
| L595F | — | — | R | — | — | Y | 10, 12, 15, 80, 108 |
| L595S | — | — | R | — | — | Y | 12, 13, 15, 51, 69, 79, 80, 87, 92 |
| L595T | S | S | R | — | — | N | 10, 53, 80 |
| L595W | — | — | R | — | — | Y | 10, 12, 15, 80, 82, 87 |
| L595del | — | — | R | — | — | Y | 10, 15, 79, 80, 81, 109 |
| L600I | — | — | S | — | — | Y | 15, 85 |
| L600del | — | — | R | — | — | Y | 10, 12, 15, 45, 80, 81, 82 |
| L634Q | — | — | S | — | — | Y | 15, 82 |
| M460I | S | S | R | — | — | Y | 12, 15, 28, 51, 69, 80, 87, 92, 110 |
| M460L | — | — | R | — | — | N | 10, 84 |
| M460T | — | — | R | — | — | Y | 15, 85, 92 |
| M460V | — | S | R | — | — | Y | 12, 13, 15, 36, 40, 60, 79, 80, 87, 90, 92 |
| M615V | — | — | S | — | — | Y | 15, 96 |
| N597D | — | — | S | — | — | Y | 15, 111 |
| N597I | — | — | R | — | — | N | 10, 80 |
| P521L | — | — | R | R | — | Y | 15, 100 |
| T409M | — | — | — | R | — | Y | 5, 18, 20 |
| T601M | — | — | S | — | — | Y | 15, 81 |
| T601del | — | — | R | — | — | Y | 15, 81, 11s |
| V345I | — | — | S | S | — | Y | 99 |
| V353A | — | — | — | R | — | Y | 3, 5, 20 |
| V356G | — | — | R | R | — | Y | 15, 100, 101 |
| V466G | — | — | R | R | — | Y | 14, 15, 96, 100 |

| Variant | Cidovir | Foscarnet | Ganciclovir | Maribavir | Letermovir | Confirmed by Phenotyping | References |
|---------|---------|-----------|-------------|-----------|------------|--------------------------|------------|
| Y617H | — | — | S | — | — | Y | 15, 93 |
| Y617del | — | — | R | R | — | Y | 20, 94 |

* = stop codon

del = deletion

R = "Resistant." Resistant indicates evidence of drug resistance compared with a wild-type virus.

P = "Possible Resistance." Possible resistance indicates mutations were detected with borderline-level drug resistance or conflicting resistance status reported in the literature.

S = "Sensitive." Ignored by the plugin and reported as additional variant.

— = No known resistance-association or phenotypically confirmed sensitivity to specified drug. Ignored in the analysis.

Y = "Yes." Mutation's resistance profile was confirmed by marker transfer/phenotyping experiments.

N = "No." Mutation's resistance profile has not been confirmed by marker transfer/phenotyping experiments.

Table References

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