

## HIV INFECTION IN PEDIATRICS

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### **Abstract**

HIV Infection in Pediatrics. Paul E. Palumbo, Department of Pediatrics, Division of Infectious Diseases and Immunology, University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey.

HIV pediatric infection has presented a special challenge to clinicians and laboratory scientists. The history of diagnostic approaches will be reviewed in conjunction with the clinical needs driving them. Testing algorithms employing direct viral detection within clinical specimens have been developed and continue to evolve. Validation and quality assurance of diagnostic and monitoring assays remain a critical issue. Diagnostic information generated within pediatric cohorts has yielded insights into transmission mechanisms and disease prognosis. Pediatric specific immunologic and virologic monitoring issues will be reviewed. Assays which are rapid, sensitive, cost efficient, and technically simplified are being developed and should have widespread applicability to pediatric HIV screening and care.

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\*Paper not available.