

Table 1: Standard comments with numbers in accordance with Figures 1 and 2

- 1 HIV diagnosis: HIV NEGATIVE. The HIV screening test was negative. An infection can only be ruled out if potential exposure is more than six weeks ago (window period).
- 2 HIV diagnosis: HIV POSITIVE. The reactive result of the initial HIV screening test was confirmed with a confirmatory test. The sample comes from a person infected with [HIV, HIV-1, HIV-2, HIV-1 and HIV-2]. HIV NOTIFICATION.
- 3 HIV diagnosis: INTERIM REPORT. The reactive result from the initial HIV screening test failed to yield a conclusive result in the confirmatory test. For a conclusive assessment, the submitted sample must undergo further tests in the laboratory, which require extra time.
- 4 HIV diagnosis: HIV NEGATIVE. The reactive result of the initial HIV screening test could not be confirmed in two different confirmatory tests and has been assessed as false-reactive. An infection can only be ruled out if potential exposure is more than six weeks ago (window period).
- 5 HIV diagnosis: HIV POSITIVE. The reactive result of the initial HIV screening test was confirmed in one of two confirmatory tests performed. The sample comes from a person infected with [HIV, HIV-1, HIV-2, HIV-1 and HIV-2]. HIV NOTIFICATION.
- 6a *(For first submission)*
HIV diagnosis: HIV INCONCLUSIVE. The reactive result of the initial HIV screening test could not be confirmed in either of the two confirmatory tests performed. In order to conclusively rule out an HIV infection, the test needs to be repeated using a new blood sample at an interval of around four weeks after the first sample.
- 6b *(For repeated submission according to comment 6a with unchanged serology result/negative immunoblot)*
HIV diagnosis: HIV NEGATIVE. The reactive result of the initial HIV screening test could not be confirmed in either of the two confirmatory tests performed and has been assessed as false-reactive.
- 6c *(For repeated submission according to 6a with increased HIV serology)*
HIV diagnosis: HIV INCONCLUSIVE. The reactive result of the initial HIV screening test [and/or] the antibody-based confirmatory test shows a clear increase in markers compared with the first test performed a month ago. An atypical HIV infection is suspected. Please contact the NCR for further diagnostic confirmation.
- 7 HIV diagnosis: HIV INCONCLUSIVE. For a definitive assessment, the test needs to be repeated on a new blood sample. Please send a new blood sample as soon as possible to [our laboratory/the NCR].