

Toxoplasma IgM false positive case

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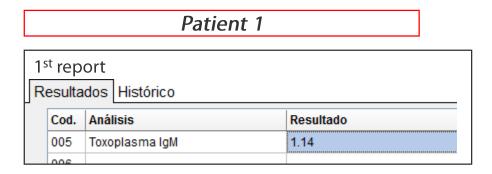
01. Case Background

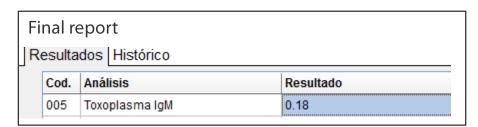
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Ideas

Complain

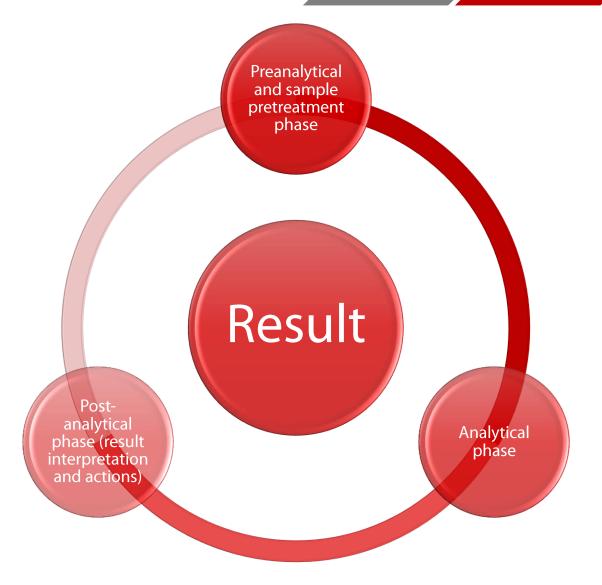
The customer complained they reported a positive result (1,14) and then obtained a negative result (0,18) for a pregnant patient, using the same sample.

They decided to confirm all positive results and now they have three cases of false positive results between April and May. The QC is within limits.

Solicitude

They had an answer from our distributor suggesting following the diagnostic guidelines for Colombia, but they need to know the root cause of the changes in the results.

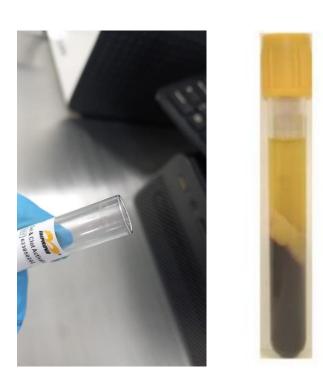






- If interference is suspected, identify the analyte and nonanalyte causes.
- Evaluate all the phases of the analysis.

Verify the preanalytical and sample pretreatment protocol



Preanalytical phase was checking with the following findings:

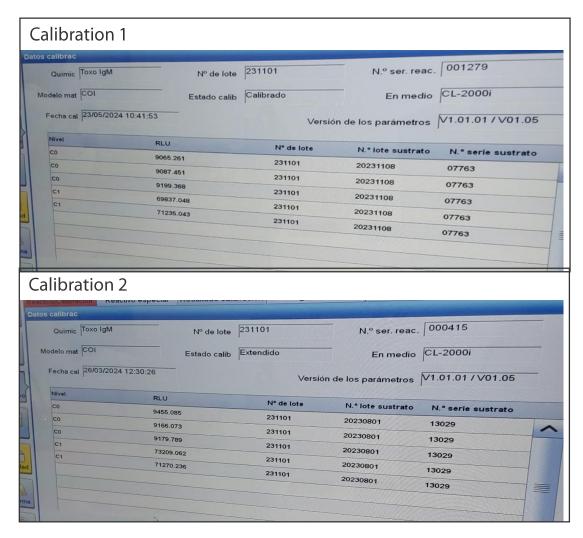
Background

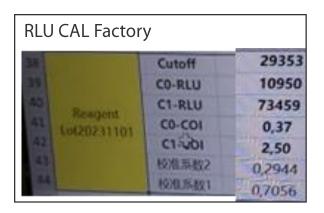
- The customer used clot activator tubes with gel
- Centrifuge 3500 RPM 15 min
- Storage: (2-8°c); no aliquots
- They processed the samples daily
- The re-test process was many days after the first analysis, and was just if they had doubts or complaints



Verify the analytical aspects

1. Calibration

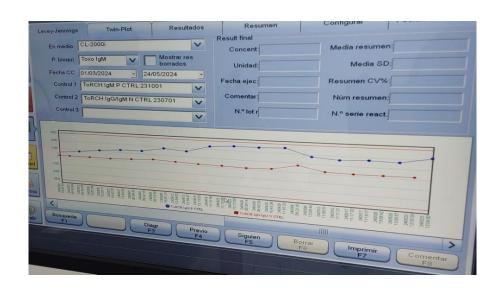




Calibration results were normal

Verify the analytical aspects

2. QC



QC results are withing range, however positive level has a positive bias.



Verify the analytical aspects

3. Maintenance

The customer had performed the maintenance according to our recommendations.

Verify the post-analytical aspects

The laboratory didn't have a re-test protocol and usually reported the first result.

The doctor with a positive result solicitates them a Toxoplasma IgG avidity test or confirms the IgM result if is below 1,9 COI.



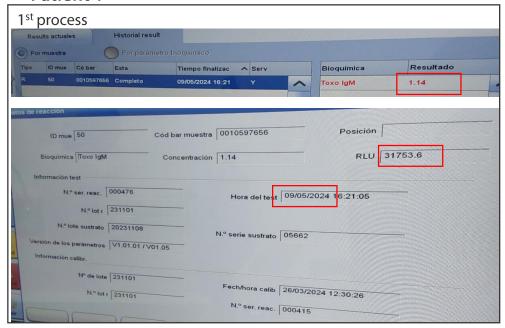
Possible Reasons of false positive for Toxo IgM

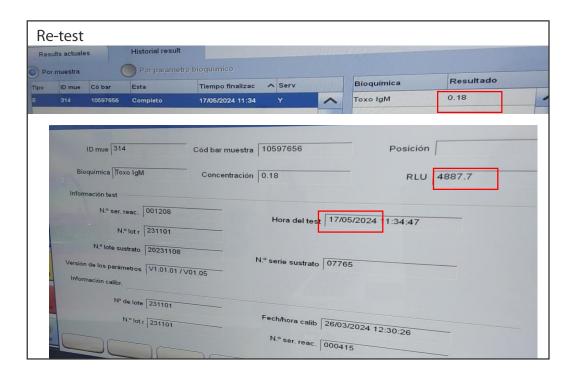
- Increased sensitivity of assays in a population with low prevalence;
- Sample conditions (fibrin, hemolyzed, sample pre-treatment);
- Analyzer maintenance (sample probe exterior cleaning, clean dispersion aspiration probes, daily clean, effect check)
- Others:
 - √ Heterophile antibodies;
 - ✓ Autoimmune disorders and other medical conditions;
 - ✓ Multiple transfusions



Troubleshooting:

Patient 1

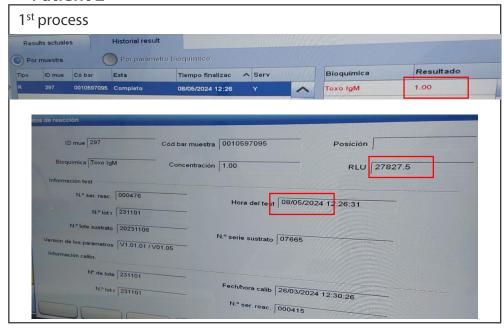


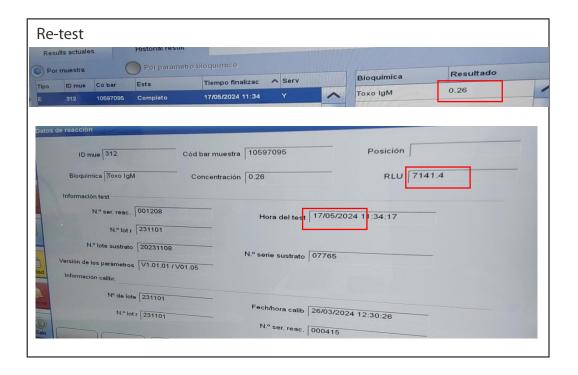


Ideas

Troubleshooting:

Patient 2

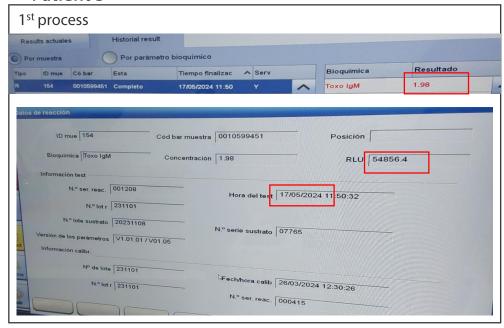


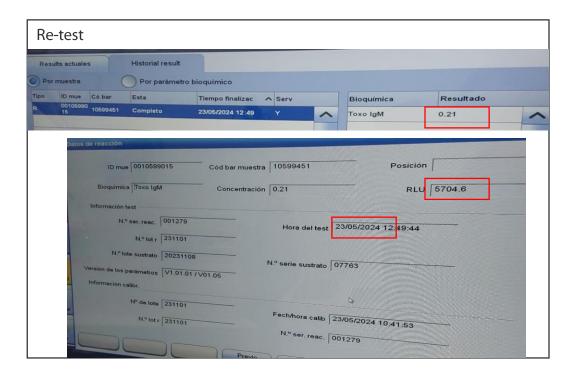


Ideas

Troubleshooting:

Patient 3





Cases Summary:

- 1. Three cases with positive results (near to indeterminate zone)
- 2. Samples were re-test many days after the first result, with negative results
- 3. After the first test, the samples were storage in the primary tube (2-8°C)
- 4. The samples were re-test because the laboratory had a complaint from a doctor
- 5. QC is within range with a little bias



Pre-analytical and analytical phase:

- 1. Check <u>centrifugation process</u> in the lab, check manufacturer tube recommendations.
- 2. Before centrifugation, the serum samples must be <u>completely</u> <u>coagulated.</u>
- 3. If the test cannot be performed within 8 hours, <u>separate the serum</u> <u>sample from the blood collection tube for storage.</u>
- 4. If the test cannot be completed within 8 hours, the sample should be sealed and refrigerated at 2 8°C; avoid re peated freezing and thawing of the sample.

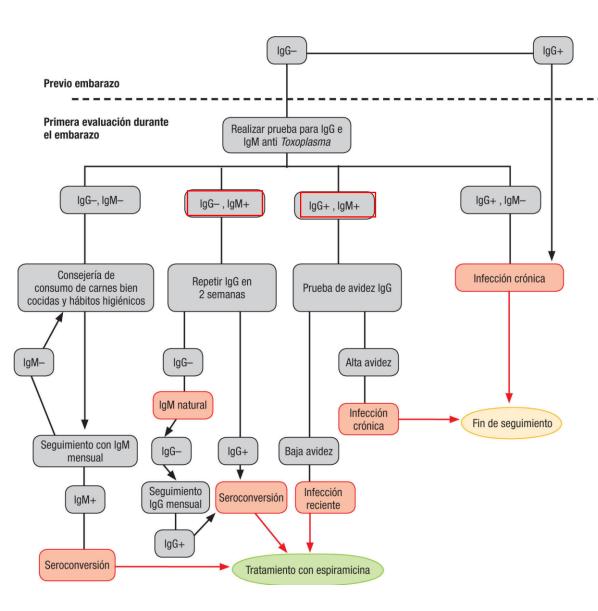


Pre-analytical and analytical phase:

- 5. Stablish a <u>re-test protocol</u>, specially for positive samples near to the indeterminate range, and according with doctors' behavior (below 1,9 COI):
- ✓ Re-exam the samples after centrifugation 10000g/10 min
- ✓ Re-test the same day
- 6. Make sure the analyzer completed the maintenance, and the controls are handling according with IFU.





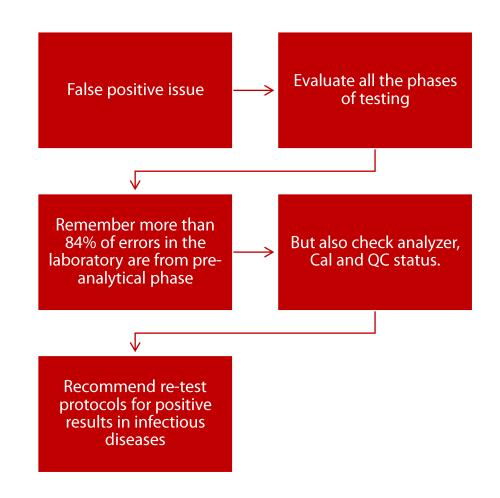


Postanalytical phase:

1. Follow national guidelines for Toxoplasmosis diagnostic in pregnants

Conclusion:

- It was a pre-treatment issue, they had to improve centrifugation, and they needed a re-test protocol.
- The customer has to follow-up maintenance protocol and control handling recommendations.
- After our suggestions, the laboratory informed they don't have false positive reports. They stablished a re-test protocol and change the centrifugation process 4000rpm 15 min.



Background

Thanks!

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