BACKGROUND
HHV-8, also designated Kaposi’s sarcoma-associated herpesvirus, is associated with multicentric Castleman’s disease and primary effusion lymphoma, a rare type of non-Hodgkin lymphoma affecting the body cavities. The HHV-8 K8.1 gene encodes for two immunogenic/lytic glycoproteins that are generated by a splicing event: K8.1A and K8.1B. K8.1A is the predominant form associated with the virion envelope and is comprised of 228 residues. This protein consists of a cleavable signal sequence, a transmembrane domain, O-glycosylation sites and four N-glycosylation sites. Evidence suggests that K8.1A interacts with heparan sulfate (HS) molecules on the surface of target cells and could mediate HHV-8 interaction with HS. The K8.1B glycoprotein has 167 residues, is similar in sequence to K8.1A but it contains a 61 residue in frame deletion. In addition, K8.1B has only three N-glycosylation sites and lacks O-glycosylation sites.

REFERENCES

SOURCE
HHV-8 K8.1A/B (4A4) is a mouse monoclonal antibody raised against HHV-8 K8.1A and B.

RESEARCH USE
For research use only, not for use in diagnostic procedures.