**Supplementary material**

 Primers and probes used in this study targeted the genes UL34 and UL80.5. Sequences are shown below.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Genes** | **Sequences (5’-3’)** |
| UL34 | F- TGAACTTCATCATCACCACCCGAGACT |
| R- CCTTGTACGCTTTGGAAATCGAGCCTG |
| P- FAM-CGACGATTCAGTCCTGCGAGCC-QSY |
| UL 80.5 | F- CGGCTAGTGTCGTGTTAGC |
| R- CACAAAAATCCGCCGATTCAGATC |
| P- VIC-AAGCCGCCGCAGCTTCCCAG-QSY |

The sequence of the plasmid used for the standard curve is shown below. Primers and probes are shown in bold for UL34 gene and underlined for UL80.5 gene:

CCCCACCGCCGTCGTCGTCA**TGAACTTCATCATCACCACCCGAGACT**TCTCCAA**CGACGATTCAGTCCTGCGAGCC**GCCGAGATGCGTGACAACGTGG**CAGGCTCGATTTCCAAAGCGTACAAGG**GCACGGTACGCGCCGAAGGCTTTTTGGCAGGTTCTTCTTCCTGCCCGGCTAGTGTCGTGTTAGCCGCCGCTGCTGCCCAAGCCGCCGCAGCTTCCCAGAGCCCGCCCAAAGACATGGTAGATCTGAATCGGCGGATTTTTGTGGCTGCGCTCAATAAGCTCGA