

Fig 1. HCV RNA Quantitative PCR

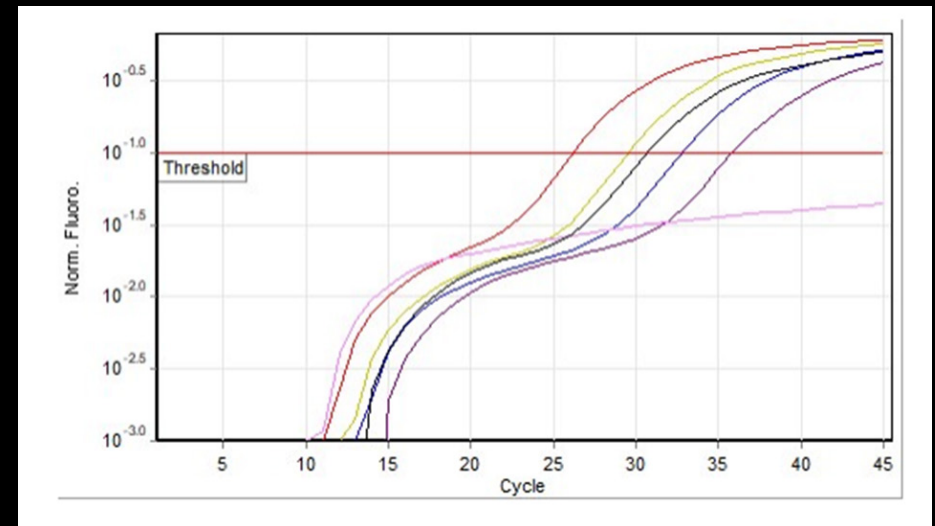


Fig 2. HIV-1 RNA Quantitative PCR

DISCUSSION:

There are two possibilities in this case: either a false negative Anti-HCV screening test at the patient's initial ANC visit that missed an early-stage HCV infection, or an infection acquired sexually from her partner during pregnancy. This case highlights the importance of screening for HIV, HBV and HCV in all pregnant women and their partners once they have contact with a healthcare facility to identify infection and manage it appropriately. IV drug use is a major risk factor for acquiring these infections and is highly prevalent in many parts of India. HIV positive status, by itself, is also a risk factor for HBV and HCV infection and co-infections are commonly observed. It is hence, important to screen all HIV positive individuals for HBsAg and Anti-HCV as well. Even in 2022, a large number of pregnant women go through their antenatal period and deliver without ever being screened for HIV, HBV or HCV. Considering the