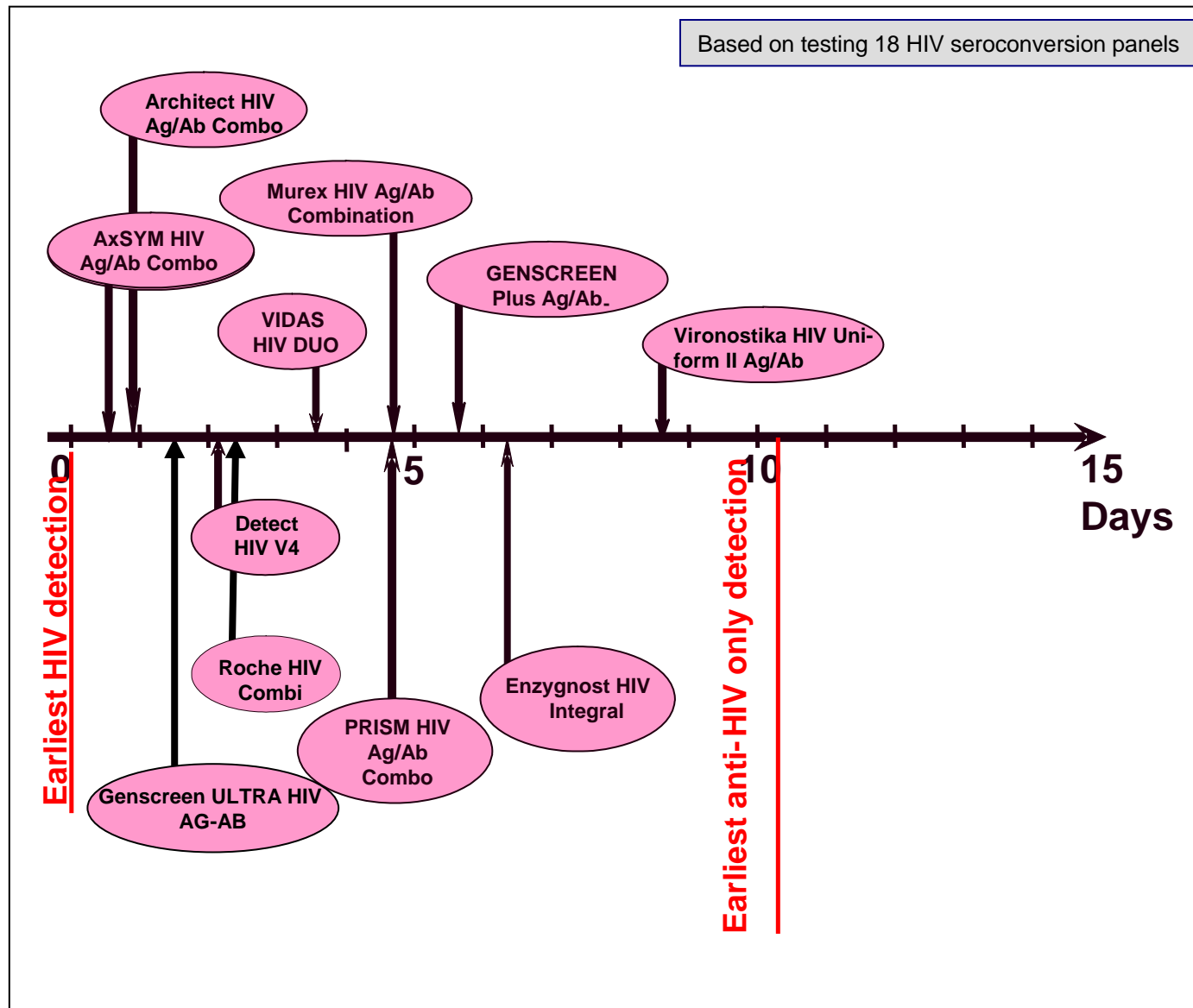


Timing of detection for combined HIV antigen and antibody detection assays (mean values)



Note:

The differences in detection of HIV infection by screening kits can be examined by calculating the number of days each kit detects primary infection compared with the most sensitive HIV assay. This timing calculation is derived from testing seroconversion panels each of which comprises a series of bleeds from a single patient taken at intervals following infection.

The most sensitive assay for each seroconversion panel is assigned a value of 'time zero', and any less sensitive assay a positive value based on the number of days after the most sensitive assay detected infection. An overall mean and median delay is then calculated for the seroconversion panels tested.