

Hepatitis B Surface Antigen

Test Description	Qualitative assay for the detection of hepatitis B surface antigen (HBsAg) in human serum or plasma.
Test Use	To detect active Hepatitis B virus infection, either acute or chronic
Test Department	Virology Phone: (860) 920-6662, FAX (860) 920-6661
Methodology	Enzyme Immunoassay (EIA)
Availability	Test is performed weekly
Specimen Requirements	1 mL serum (preferred) or plasma derived from heparin, citrate or EDTA
Collection Kit/Container	To obtain collection kit, refer to Collection Kit Ordering Information.
Collection Instructions	Standard venipuncture technique
Specimen Handling & Transport	Store specimens at 2-8 °C up to 7 days, including transit time. For longer storage of specimens, keep at -20 °C or colder. Transport to laboratory with ice packs.
Unacceptable Conditions	Uncentrifuged blood Unlabeled specimen Specimen that have leaked or containers that have broken in transit Specimens received after acceptable holding time
Requisition Form	Clinical test requisition OL-9B (select Hepatitis B Surface Antigen)
Required Information	Name and address of submitter. Two patient identifiers (ie.name, DOB, Acc.#, MRN), Town of residence (city, state, zip), specimen source/type, date collected, test(s) requested. Please ensure information on the requisition matches that on the specimen.
Limitations	A person with a positive result is presumed to be infected with hepatitis B, except that persons recently vaccinated for hepatitis B may have transient activity for up to 18 days.
Additional Comments	Repeatedly reactive results are confirmed with a neutralization assay prior to being reported as positive for HBsAg.

Revision: 9/2025