

## Hepatitis C Testing

<b>Test Description</b>	Qualitative assay for the detection of antibody to hepatitis C virus (anti-HCV) in human serum or plasma.
<b>Test Use</b>	As a screening assay to aid in the diagnosis of recent and/or past infection with hepatitis C virus (HCV).
<b>Test Department</b>	Virology Phone (860) 920-6662, FAX: (860) 920-6661
<b>Methodology</b>	Enzyme-linked Immunosorbent Assay (ELISA)
<b>Availability</b>	Test is performed twice each week
<b>Specimen Requirements</b>	1 mL serum (preferred) or plasma derived from EDTA, lithium heparin, CPD, CP2D, CPDA-1, ACD or 4% citrate anticoagulants
<b>Collection kit/container</b>	To obtain collection kit, refer to Collection Kit Ordering Information.
<b>Collection Instructions</b>	Standard venipuncture technique
<b>Specimen Handling &amp; Transport</b>	Store specimen at 2-8° C. Specimen must be received by the laboratory within 7 days of collection. Transport with an ice pack coolant (preferred) or at ambient temperature. Avoid temperature extremes.
<b>Unacceptable Conditions</b>	Unlabeled specimen Specimens that have leaked or containers that have broken in transit Hemolyzed or heat treated specimens Specimens received more than 7 days after collection
<b>Requisition Form</b>	Clinical Test Requisition (select <b>Hepatitis C Testing</b> )
<b>Required Information</b>	Name and address of submitter (and/or Horizon profile #) Patient name or identifier, town of residence (city, state, zip), date of birth Specimen type or source, date collected, test requested Please ensure patient name on the requisition matches that on the specimen.
<b>Limitations</b>	The presence of anti-HCV does not constitute a diagnosis of hepatitis C disease and may be indicative of recent and/or past HCV infection. A nonreactive test result does not exclude the possibility of exposure to HCV. Levels of anti-HCV may be undetectable in early infection.
<b>Additional Comments</b>	Nucleic acid amplification testing for Hepatitis C RNA is recommended for patients with repeatedly reactive HCV antibody test results. Repeatedly reactive HCV antibody specimens are reflexed to Hepatitis C RNA testing when specimen volume is sufficient and specimen stability requirements are met.

Revision: 3/11/21