

HEPATITIS C VIRUS (HCV) QUANTITATIVE PCR

Synonym(s): HCV RNA LOAD

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Lab Section Category	Molecular Diagnostics - Microbiology Click here to find out more about the write-up (/clinical-departments-centers/pathology/pathology-handbook/lab-discipline-special-instructions/pages/moleculardiagnosics.aspx).
Indications	For detection and quantitative measurement of hepatitis C viral (HCV) RNA in human serum or plasma. For monitoring response to treatment, where samples are obtained prior to and during treatment.
Specimen Required	6 - 10 mL blood in sterile EDTA container or serum separation tubes. Alternatively, at least 3 mL plasma or serum (separated from EDTA-treated or whole blood within 6 hours of collection by centrifugation at 800-1600g for 20 minutes at room temperature) in a sterile screw-capped polypropylene tube.
Storage and Transport	Refrigerate sample until transfer to laboratory. Do not freeze (except for plasma or serum) . Send sample at 2 - 8°C (with an ice-pack). Sample must reach the laboratory within 24 hours after collection for plain blood and 48 hours for EDTA blood (preferably within 6 hours for all samples). Plasma may be stored at 2 - 8°C for up to 2 days or frozen at -70°C before despatch to the laboratory.
Method	Real-time PCR (Roche COBAS Ampliprep/TaqMan HCV Quantitative Test, version 2.0).
Test Result	Not detected or Detected (quantity reported in IU/mL) Linear Range: 15 to at least 1.00E+08 IU/mL
Turnaround Time	1 - 8 days
Day(s) Test Set up	Thursday

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Change History Notes

- 10 Dec 2013 11:09 AM

Method: Method has been updated w.e.f. 19/12/13.
Test Results: Reporting of Test Results has been updated w.e.f. 19/12/13.

- **02 Nov 2015 03:26 PM**
Test results: Linear Range of Test Results has been last updated on 02/11/15.
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