



HEPATITIS, VIRAL – PANEL TESTS (Hepatitis B screen)

Synonym(s): Hepatitis screen, Hepatitis B

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Lab Section Category	Virology Click here to find out more about the write-up (/clinical-departments-centers/pathology/pathology-handbook/lab-discipline-special-instructions/pages/virology.aspx)
Description	Hepatitis B Surface Antigen (HBsAg) & Antibody to Surface Antigen (anti-HBs) or IgM Antibody to Core Antigen (anti-HBc IgM)
Specimen Required	6 – 8 mL plain blood. Hepatitis B screen: To test for present or past hepatitis B infection. The serum will first be tested for HBsAg. If HBsAg is negative, serum will be quantitatively tested for anti-HBs. If HBsAg is positive, it will be tested for anti-HBc IgM instead.
Storage and Transport	Refrigerate samples if delay in transporting to laboratory is anticipated. Do not freeze.
Method	Chemiluminescent Microparticle Immunoassay

Test Result	HBsAg	Anti-HBs	Anti-HBc IgM	Interpretation
	-	<10 mIU/mL	Not Tested	Non-immune to hepatitis B
	-	≥ 10 mIU/mL	Not Tested	Antibody present: immune if level >10 mIU/mL
	+	Not Tested	+	Acute type B hepatitis
	+	Not Tested	-	Possible hepatitis B carrier
Turnaround Time	<1 – 2 days			
Day(s) Test Set up	See Serological tests for Hepatitis B.			

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