

Hepatitis B Quantitative Viral Load, PCR

Order Name: **HEP B PCR**

Test Number: 5592525

Revision Date: 12/12/2022

TEST NAME	METHODOLOGY	LOINC CODE
Hepatitis B Quantitative Viral Load, PCR	Polymerase Chain Reaction	

SPECIMEN REQUIREMENTS				
Specimen	Specimen Volume (min)	Specimen Type	Specimen Container	Transport Environment
Preferred	3mL (2.5mL)	Plasma	EDTA (Lavender Top)	Frozen
Alternate 1	3mL (2.5mL)	Serum	Clot Activator SST	Frozen
Instructions	Preferred Specimen is 5 mL (2.5 mL) Plasma or Serum from EDTA (Lavender Top) or Clot Activator SST Centrifuge specimen and separate plasma or serum from cells within 6 hours of collection and freeze. Stability: Freshly drawn specimens whole blood may be held at 2 to 30°C for up to 6 hours prior to centrifugation. Serum or plasma specimens may be stored frozen at -20°C or lower for up to 60 days. Avoid multiple freeze/thaws.			

GENERAL INFORMATION	
Testing Schedule	Wed
Expected TAT	7-10 Days (depending upon time of receipt of specimen)
Clinical Use	Quantitates Hepatitis B Virus DNA down to 0.01 pg/mL for establishment of a baseline and to monitor viral load. The most important test for determining the efficacy of antiviral treatment is quantitative HBV DNA monitoring. HBV DNA testing is useful in detecting potential disease transmission from prospective donors and for post-transplantation monitoring. Although HBeAg is considered an indirect monitor of viral replication, high viral replication may occur without circulating HBeAg, due to mutations of the virus preventing the production of HBeAg.
CPT Code(s)	87517
Lab Section	Molecular Diagnostic