
Lab Dept: Serology

Test Name: HEPATITIS A IgM ANTIBODY (ANTI-HAV IgM)

General Information

Lab Order Codes: HAVM

Synonyms: Hepatitis A Virus IgM Antibody; Anti-hepatitis A; Hepatitis A IgM

CPT Codes: 86709 – Hepatitis A antibody, IgM

Test Includes: Hepatitis A IgM Antibody reported positive or negative.

Logistics

Test Indications: Diagnosis of acute or recent hepatitis A infection

Lab Testing Sections: Serology - Sendouts

Referred to: Mayo Clinic Laboratories (Mayo Test: HAIGM)

Phone Numbers: MIN Lab: 612-813-6280

STP Lab: 651-220-6550

Test Availability: Daily, 24 hours

Turnaround Time: 1 – 2 days, test performed Monday - Saturday

Special Instructions: N/A

Specimen

Specimen Type: Blood

Container: SST (Gold, marble or red) tube

Draw Volume: 1.8 mL (Minimum: 1.8 mL) blood

Processed Volume: 0.6 mL (Minimum: 0.6 mL) serum

Collection: Routine blood collection

Special Processing: Lab Staff: Allow specimen to clot, centrifuge, remove serum aliquot into a screw-capped round bottom plastic vial within 2 hours of collection. Store and ship at frozen temperatures. Forward promptly.

Specimen stable frozen (preferred) for 90 days, refrigerated for 6 days, ambient for 72 hours.

Patient Preparation: For 24 hours before specimen collection, patient should not take multivitamins or dietary supplements (e.g., hair, skin, and nail supplements) containing biotin (vitamin B7).

Sample Rejection: Specimens other than serum; gross hemolysis; gross lipemia; grossly icteric; mislabeled or unlabeled specimens

Interpretive

Reference Range: Negative

Critical Values: N/A

Limitations: Testing too early (<2 weeks) after exposure to hepatitis A virus (HAV) may yield negative anti-HAV IgM results.

False-positive results may be due to presence of cross-reactive antibodies from other viral infection or underlying illnesses (such as non-Hodgkin lymphoma). Positive results should be correlated with patient's clinical history and epidemiologic exposure.

The presence of heterophilic antibodies and human antimouse antibodies (in patients who have received preparations of mouse monoclonal antibodies for diagnosis or therapy) in serum may interfere with the assay and cause erroneous results (false-positive or false-negative).

Consumption of high-dose biotin supplement within 12 hours of blood collection for this test can cause false-negative test results. Individuals should cease taking these biotin-containing dietary supplements for minimum 12 hours before blood collection for this test.

Performance characteristics have not been established for the following specimen characteristics:

- Grossly icteric (total bilirubin level of >50 mg/dL)
- Grossly hemolyzed (hemoglobin level of >1000 mg/dL)
- Grossly lipemic (intralipid >2000 mg/dL)
- Containing particulate matter
- Heat-inactivated
- Cadaveric specimens

Methodology: Electrochemiluminescence Immunoassay (ECLIA)

References: [Mayo Clinic Laboratories](#) April 2024

Updates:

4/6/2004: Test moved from Memorial Blood Center of Minneapolis to Mayo Medical Laboratories.

12/23/2014: Method update, previously listed as Enzyme Immunoassay (EIA)

1/16/2017: Tube type to SST.

9/21/2017: Storage update, method update.

4/23/2024: Updated optimal and minimum specimen volumes, changed methodology, updated limitations, added specimen stability, added patient preparation, changed serum transport temperature from refrigerated to frozen.