
Lab Dept: Serology

Test Name: HEPATITIS B CORE IgM ANTIBODY (ANTI-HBc IGM)

General Information

Lab Order Codes: HBCM

Synonyms: Hepatitis B Core IgM Specific; Hepatitis Bc Antibody; Hepatitis B Core Antibody IgM Fraction

CPT Codes: 86705 – Hepatitis B core antibody; IgM antibody

Test Includes: Hepatitis B Core IgM Specific Antibody reported as positive or negative.

Logistics

Test Indications: Diagnosis of acute hepatitis B infection. Identifying acute hepatitis B virus infection in the “core window” period, when HbsAg and anti-HBs are negative. Differentiation between acute and chronic hepatitis B infection when used in conjunction with anti-HBc IgG and IgM.

Lab Testing Sections: Serology - Sendouts

Referred to: Mayo Medical Laboratories (MML Test# HBIM)

Phone Numbers: MIN Lab: 612-813-6280

STP Lab: 651-220-6550

Test Availability: Daily, 24 hours

Turnaround Time: 1 - 2 days; test setup daily

Special Instructions: N/A

Specimen

Specimen Type: Blood

Container: SST (Gold or Marble)

Draw Volume: 3 mL (Minimum: 1.5 mL) blood

Processed Volume: 1 mL (Minimum: 0.5 mL) serum

Collection:	Routine venipuncture
Special Processing:	Lab Staff: Allow specimen to clot, centrifuge and remove serum within 24 hours of collection. Remove serum aliquot into a screw-capped round bottom plastic vial. Store and ship at frozen temperatures. Forward promptly.
Patient Preparation:	None
Sample Rejection:	Gross hemolysis; warm specimens; gross lipemia; grossly icteric' mislabeled or unlabeled specimens

Interpretive

Reference Range:

Negative

Note: A positive result indicates recent acute hepatitis B infection. A negative result suggests lack of recent exposure to the virus.

Critical Values:

N/A

Limitations:

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

- Grossly icteric: Total bilirubin level of >20 mg/dL
- Grossly lipemic: Triolein level of >3000 mg/dL
- Grossly hemolyzed: Hemoglobin level of >500 mg/dL
- Containing particulate matter
- Cadaveric specimens

Methodology:

Chemiluminescence Immunoassay

References:

[Mayo Medical Laboratories Web Page](#) July 2015

Updates:

- 4/6/2004: Test moved from Memorial Blood Center of Minneapolis to Mayo Medical Laboratories.
- 3/8/2005: Methodology previously listed as Enzyme Immunoassay.
- 9/27/2010: Specimen volume updates.
- 1/16/2016: Update to SST.