

## **NEW TEST ANNOUNCEMENT**

MML JACKSONVILLE

**NOTIFICATION DATE:** May 19, 2010 **EFFECTIVE DATE** June 10, 2010

## HEPATITIS C VIRUS (HCV) RNA DETECTION AND QUANTIFICATION BY REAL-TIME REVERSE TRANSCRIPTION-PCR (RT-PCR), SERUM #800226

**EXPLANATION:** Mayo Medical Laboratories is pleased to announce that our Jacksonville Laboratory will be adding Hepatitis C Virus (HCV) RNA Detection and Quantification by Real-Time Reverse Transcription-PCR (RT-PCR), Serum, to their test menu. The testing and reporting is equivalent to Rochester test, Hepatitis C Virus (HCV) RNA Detection and Quantification by Real-Time Reverse Transcription-PCR (RT-PCR), Serum (Test code #83142).

## **USEFUL FOR:**

- Diagnosis of acute HCV infection before the appearance of anti-HCV antibodies in serum.
- Confirmatory testing for chronic HCV infection in anti-HCV antibody-positive patients.
- Detection of serum HCV RNA to distinguish between chronic HCV infection and resolved HCV infection among anti-HCV antibody-positive patients.

**METHODOLOGY:** Real-Time Reverse Transcription-Polymerase Chain Reaction (RT-PCR)

**REFERENCE VALUES:** Negative

**SPECIMEN REQUIREMENTS:** Draw blood in a serum gel tube(s). (**Heparinized specimen or serum drawn in a plain, red-top tube is not acceptable.**) Spin down within 6 hours of draw, immediately refrigerate specimen, freeze specimen within 12 hours of draw, and send 2.2 mL of serum frozen in a screw-capped, round-bottom, plastic vial. Forward promptly.

**Note:** This test is intended to detect acute and chronic HCV infection and to monitor response to anti-HCV therapy.

## **CAUTIONS:**

- A single negative HCV RNA result with positive anti-HCV antibody status (assay signal-to-cutoff ratio of > or =3.8 by enzyme immuno-assay [EIA], or > or =8.0 by chemiluminescence immunoassay [CIA]), does not necessarily indicate past or resolved HCV infection. Individuals with such results should be retested for HCV RNA in 1 to 2 months, to distinguish between patients with past/resolved HCV infection and those with chronic HCV infection having episodic HCV replication.
- Presence of anti-HCV antibodies (assay signal-to-cutoff ratio of <3.8 by EIA or <8.0 by CIA) in individuals with negative HCV RNA results may be confirmed by #80181</li>
  "Hepatitis C Virus Antibody (Anti-HCV) Confirmation, Serum."

**MML LIST FEE:** \$ 483.50

**CPT CODE:** 87522

**ANALYTIC TIME:** 1 day

**DAY(S) SET-UP:** Monday through Saturday

QUESTIONS: Contact your Mayo Medical Laboratories' Regional Manager Greg Renkly Mayo Medical Laboratories' Technologist Support Telephone: 800-533-1710