**Hepatitis C: Testing Algorithm for Screening and Diagnosis**

**Clear serum specimen**

- **Screening in the following patient type:**
  - Recipient of blood or blood products prior to 1992
  - Injection drug user
  - All persons born from 1945 through 1965*

- **Diagnostic testing:** Patient with abnormal liver enzymes with or without symptoms

**HCVRN / Hepatitis C Antibody Screen with Reflex to HCV RNA by PCR, Serum**

- Reactive antibody screen automatically reflexes to PCR assay

**HCVDX / Hepatitis C Antibody with Reflex to HCV RNA by PCR, Serum**

- Reactive antibody result automatically reflexes to PCR assay

**HCVRQ / Hepatitis C Virus (HCV) RNA Detection and Quantification by Real-Time Reverse Transcription-PCR (RT-PCR), Serum**

- Type of Patient
  - Acute hepatitis
  - Immunocompromised

**HCVRQ**

- Any viral load

- **NEGATIVE**

- Active HCV infection follow-up and treatment decisions depend on patient risk group

- Request HCVRQ in 1 to 2 months if abnormal liver enzyme levels persist without alternative diagnosis

**Optional:**

- HCVR / Hepatitis C Virus Antibody Confirmation, Serum

**Past/resolved HCV infection**

**False-reactive HCV antibody result**

**HCVRQ**

- Any viral load

- **NEGATIVE**

- Repeat HCVRQ in 1 to 2 months if abnormal liver enzyme levels persist without alternative diagnosis

**Hemolyzed or cadaveric serum specimen**

- **Screening in the following patient type:**
  - Recipient of blood or blood products prior to 1992
  - Injection drug user
  - All persons born from 1945 through 1965*

- **Diagnostic testing:** Patient with abnormal liver enzymes with or without symptoms

**HCCAD / Hepatitis C Virus Antibody Screen for Cadaveric or Hemolyzed Specimens, Serum**

**HCCDD / Hepatitis C Virus Antibody in Cadaveric or Hemolyzed Specimens, Serum**

- Reactive antibody screen result

- **NEGATIVE**

- Automatic reflex to:
  - HCVR / Hepatitis C Virus Antibody Confirmation, Serum

**HCVRQ**

- Any viral load

- **NEGATIVE**

- Active or past/resolved HCV infection

- False-reactive HCV antibody screen result

- **NEGATIVE**

- No evidence of prior exposure to HCV

**Submit a nonhemolyzed (ie clear) serum specimen for HCVRQ / Hepatitis C Virus (HCV) RNA Detection and Quantification by Real-Time Reverse Transcription-PCR (RT-PCR), Serum to distinguish between active and past/resolved HCV infection**

**Type of Patient**

- Acute hepatitis
- Immunocompromised