Viral Hepatitis Prevention and Surveillance Virtual Learning Collaborative

Solutions to Increase Reflex HCV RNA Testing: Quest Diagnostics

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Routine HCV testing for those “most likely infected” based on risk factors, HCV Ab should be confirmed by RIBA or NAT, most labs did not do routinely.

Routine testing in persons living with HIV by antibody testing.

One time testing for all adults born between 1945 - 1965. RIBA not available, all Ab + should reflex to NAT to confirm active infection*

Universal screening of pregnant women, and now with each pregnancy and all adults > 18.

Lack of RNA testing in 50% with + antibody.

Timeline of HCV Screening and Testing Recommendations

1988: HCV identified as cause of Non A- Non B Hepatitis
1992: universal blood testing initiated

1998
- Routine HCV Testing

1999
- Routine testing in persons living with HIV by antibody testing

2012/2013
- One time testing for all adults born between 1945 - 1965. RIBA not available, all Ab + should reflex to NAT to confirm active infection*

2018/2020
- Universal screening of pregnant women, and now with each pregnancy and all adults > 18

*Both Quest and LabCorp were reporters in the 2013 update

Quest: Rick Pesano MD, PhD, William Meyer PhD
LabCorp: Mark Brecher MD

MMWR/ Feb 7, 2003/Vol 52/ No 3
MMWR / August 17, 2012 / Vol. 61 / No 4
MMWR/ May 10, 2013/ Vol 62/ No18
MMWR/ April 2020/ Vol 69/ No 2
Steps to Discontinue the Stand-Alone HCV AB Test Code at Quest

- We made the decision to discontinue the stand-alone antibody code based on the scientific data and the guidelines which supports more accurate diagnosis and outcomes.

- The medical and scientific teams reviewed the literature and guidelines, wrote a white paper to present to corporate compliance and quality for approval in 6/2015

- Team formed with project manager and commercial, medical/scientific directors, database, identified all codes affected to be able to notify clients appropriately and perform the necessary database work

- Formal client notification 30 days required for test code changes
  - In addition, approved Client letter distributed to provide additional information of rationale

- Discontinuation November 9, 2015:
Client Resources Available

Test Code 8472: Hepatitis C Antibody with Reflex to HCV, RNA, Quantitative, Real-Time PCR, CPT 86803

Quest Test Center

- https://testdirectory.questdiagnostics.com
- Can search for any test, and all Hepatitis-related tests available
- On each tests there are linked resources

If you want to be a Quest Diagnostics client

- Contact Tony Falvo, National Director, Public Health/Government Strategies and Solutions

Some helpful links and resources

- “Fight hepatitis with comprehensive A-E testing” brochure

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<tr>
<th>Test Resources</th>
<th>Algorithm</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Test FAQ</td>
<td>Laboratory Testing in the Diagnosis of Hepatitis A, B, or C Virus Infection</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hepatitis C Virus Antibody and RNA Testing</td>
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<td>Clinical Focus</td>
<td>Test Guide</td>
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<tr>
<td>Viral Hepatitis: Laboratory Support of Diagnosis and Management</td>
<td>Pre-exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) for HIV: Laboratory Testing</td>
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### Other Hepatitis Resources

- **Available on the Quest Website**
  
  - *Viral hepatitis: Laboratory Support of Diagnosis and Management | Clinical Focus | Quest Diagnostics*

  Last updated January 2021, it outlines Viral Hepatitis in general, and includes specific test codes that Quest Diagnostics offers for viral hepatitis:

- **For HCV:** some highlighted test codes:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Test Code</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>37811</td>
<td>Hepatitis C Viral RNA, Genotype, LiPA</td>
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<tr>
<td>94345</td>
<td>Hepatitis C Antibody with Reflex to HCV RNA, PCR w/Reflex to Genotype, LiPA</td>
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<tr>
<td>92447</td>
<td>Hepatitis C Viral RNA Genotype 1 NS5a Drug Resistance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>92204</td>
<td>Hepatitis C Viral RNA Genotype 1 NS5b Drug Resistance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>00924</td>
<td>Hepatitis C Viral RNA Genotype 1 NS3 Drug Resistance</td>
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Hepatitis B Testing Resources

- Hepatitis B Screen Panel with Reflexes: launched 2021
  - Includes:
    - Hepatitis B Surface Antigen with Reflex Confirmation
    - Hepatitis B Core Antibody, Total, with Reflex to IgM
    - Hepatitis B Surface Antibody, Quantitative
    - Interpretation of results
    - FAQ and Test Summary on website

- HBV viral load and resistance testing

- Additional tests such as Hepatitis Be Antigen, Hepatitis Be Antibody

- Hepatitis D testing: Antibody (IgM, and Total), HDV Qualitative and Quantitative viral load testing (Real-time PCR)
Other Potentially Useful Test Panels

- **PrEP HIV Baseline, Female Panel with Reflexes** [includes hCG, Cr, HIV 4\(^\text{th}\) gen, HCV Ab with reflex PCR/Genotype, HBsAg, HBsAb, HBcore Total AB reflex IgM, RPR, CT/NG TMA]

- **PrEP HIV Baseline, Male Panel with Reflexes** [includes Cr, HIV 4\(^\text{th}\) gen, HCV Ab with reflex PCR/Genotype, HBsAg, HBsAb, HBcore Total AB reflex IgM, RPR, CT/NG TMA]

- **PrEP HIV Monitoring, Female Panel** [includes hCG, Cr, HIV 4\(^\text{th}\) gen, RPR, CT/NG TMA]

- **PrEP HIV Monitoring, Male Panel** [includes HIV 4\(^\text{th}\) gen, RPR, CT/NG TMA]

- **Pre-biologic/biosimilar Screen Panel, HCV/HBV with Reflexes and QFT** [includes HBsAg, HBsAb, HBcore total AB reflex IgM, HCV AB reflex PCR/genotype]
Summary

- Quest Diagnostics discontinued the stand-alone HCV antibody code in 2015
- Only HCV antibody with reflex to HCV RNA quantitative PCR available for screening
- Other reflex panels maybe helpful, eg, Antibody to PCR to genotyping in one draw
- Quest Diagnostics offers full menu of complimentary HCV tests for management and monitoring of HCV and treatment
- Quest Diagnostics offer testing for other hepatitis viruses such as HAV, HBV, HDV as well as some additional panels
  - Pre Biologic panels, for use before starting patients on immunosuppressive therapies
  - HIV PrEP panels for ease of ordering when starting and monitoring patients on HIV prevention
Q&A