Overview

Useful For
Evaluating patients with suspected or confirmed chronic hepatitis B
Monitoring hepatitis B viral infectivity

Profile Information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Test ID</th>
<th>Reporting Name</th>
<th>Available Separately</th>
<th>Always Performed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HBAG</td>
<td>HBs Antigen, S</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EAG</td>
<td>Hepatitis Be Ag, S</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HEAB</td>
<td>HBe Antibody, S</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
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Reflex Tests

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Test ID</th>
<th>Reporting Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HBGNT</td>
<td>HBs Antigen Confirmation, S</td>
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</table>

Testing Algorithm
If hepatitis B surface antigen (HBsAg) is reactive, then HBsAg confirmation will be performed at an additional charge.

See HBV Infection-Diagnostic Approach and Management Algorithm in Special Instructions.

Special Instructions
- Viral Hepatitis Serologic Profiles
- HBV Infection-Diagnostic Approach and Management Algorithm

Method Name
Chemiluminescence Immunoassay

NY State Available
Yes

Specimen

Specimen Type
Serum SST

Necessary Information
1. Date of collection is required.
2. Indicate "Type B"

**Specimen Required**

**Patient Preparation:** For 24 hours before specimen collection do not take multivitamins or dietary supplements containing biotin (vitamin B7), which is commonly found in hair, skin, and nail supplements and multivitamins.

**Collection Container/Tube:** Serum gel

**Submission Container/Tube:** Plastic vial

**Specimen Volume:** 2.5 mL

**Collection Instructions:**

1. Centrifuge per collection tube manufacturer's instructions (eg, centrifuge and aliquot within 2 hours of collection for BD Vacutainer tubes).

2. Transfer serum into aliquot tube.

**Forms**

If not ordering electronically, complete, print, and send a [Gastroenterology and Hepatology Client Test Request (T728)](#) with the specimen.

**Specimen Minimum Volume**

2 mL

**Reject Due To**

| Gross hemolysis | Reject |
| Gross lipemia  | Reject |
| Gross icterus  | Reject |

**Specimen Stability Information**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Specimen Type</th>
<th>Temperature</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Special Container</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Serum SST</td>
<td>Frozen (preferred)</td>
<td>28 days</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Refrigerated</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ambient</td>
<td>24 hours</td>
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**Clinical and Interpretive**

**Clinical Information**

Hepatitis B virus (HBV) is a DNA virus that is endemic throughout the world. The infection is spread primarily through percutaneous contact with infected blood products (eg, blood transfusion and sharing of needles by drug addicts). The virus is also found in virtually every type of human body fluid and is known to be spread through oral and genital contact. HBV can be transmitted from mother to child during delivery through contact with blood and vaginal secretions; it is not commonly transmitted transplacentally.
After a course of acute illness, HBV persists in approximately 10% of patients. Some of these carriers are asymptomatic; others develop chronic liver disease including cirrhosis and hepatocellular carcinoma.

The following are available in Special Instructions:

- HBV Infection-Diagnostic Approach and Management Algorithm
- Viral Hepatitis Serologic Profiles

**Reference Values**

**HEPATITIS B SURFACE ANTIGEN**

Negative

**HEPATITIS Be ANTIGEN**

Negative

**HEPATITIS Be ANTIBODY**

Negative

Interpretation depends on clinical setting. See [Viral Hepatitis Serologic Profiles](#) in Special Instructions.

**Interpretation**

Hepatitis B surface antigen (HBsAg) is the first serologic marker appearing in the serum 6 to 16 weeks following hepatitis B viral (HBV) infection. In acute cases, HBsAg usually disappears 1 to 2 months after the onset of symptoms. Persistence of HBsAg for more than 6 months indicates development of either chronic carrier state or chronic liver disease.

Hepatitis B surface antibody (anti-HBs) appears with the resolution of HBV infection after the disappearance of HBsAg. Anti-HBs also appears as the immune response following a course of inoculation with the hepatitis B vaccine.

Hepatitis B core antibody (anti-HBc) appears shortly after the onset of symptoms of HBV infection and may be the only serologic marker remaining years after exposure to hepatitis B.

The presence of hepatitis Be antigen (HBeAg) correlates with infectivity, the number of viral Dane particles, the presence of core antigen in the nucleus of the hepatocyte, and the presence of viral DNA polymerase in serum. Hepatitis Be antibody (anti-HBe) positivity in a carrier is often associated with chronic asymptomatic infection.

If the patient has a sudden exacerbation of disease, consider ordering hepatitis C virus antibody (anti-HCV) and hepatitis delta virus antibody (anti-HDV).

If HBsAg converts to negative and patient's condition warrants, consider testing for anti-HBs.

If HBsAg is positive, consider testing for anti-HDV.

The following are available in Special Instructions:

- HBV Infection-Diagnostic Approach and Management Algorithm
- Viral Hepatitis Serologic Profiles
Cautions

Positive hepatitis B surface antigen (HBsAg) test results should be reported by the attending physician to the State Department of Health, as required by law in some states.

Consider administration of hepatitis B immune globulin and hepatitis B vaccine to individuals exposed to the patient's blood or body fluids.

Performance characteristics of these assays have not been established in patients under the age of 2 or in populations of immunocompromised or immunosuppressed patients. These assays are not licensed by the FDA for testing cord blood samples or screening donors of blood, plasma, human cell, or tissue products.

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 >61 mg/dL)
- Containing particulate matter
- Cadaveric specimen

Clinical Reference


Method Description

Hepatitis B Surface Antigen:

Specimens are first tested by the VITROS hepatitis B surface antigen (HBsAg) assay. With modification to the assay manufacturer's instructions for use, specimens yielding signal to cutoff ratio (S/Co) of 1.0 or above but 100.0 or lower will be confirmed by the VITROS HBsAg Confirmatory assay. Specimens that are strongly positive (i.e., S/Co >100.0) do not require this confirmation. This immunometric technique involves the simultaneous reaction of HBsAg in the sample with mouse monoclonal anti-hepatitis B surface antibody (anti-HBs) antibody coated onto the wells and a horseradish peroxidase (HRP)-labeled mouse monoclonal anti-HBs antibody in the conjugate. Unbound conjugate is removed by washing. A reagent containing luminogenic substrates (a luminol derivative and a peracid salt) and an electron transfer agent are added to the wells. The HRP in the bound conjugate catalyzes the oxidation of the luminol derivative, producing light. The electron transfer agent increases the level and duration of the light produced. The light signals are read by the system. The amount of HRP conjugate bound is indicative of the level of HBsAg present in the sample. (Package insert: VITROS HBsAg assay, GEM1201, version 13.1. Ortho-Clinical Diagnostics, Inc; 09/06/2019)

HBsAg Confirmation:

The VITROS HBsAg Confirmatory Kit uses the principle of specific antibody neutralization to confirm the presence of HBsAg. The sample is tested twice: one aliquot is incubated with a neutralizing reagent containing high titer anti-HBs (the confirmatory antibody); the second aliquot is incubated with a non-neutralizing control reagent (the sample diluent). The confirmatory antibody binds to HBsAg in the sample inhibiting its reaction in the VITROS HBsAg assay. This leads to a reduced result compared to that for the non-neutralized control sample. (Package insert: VITROS HBsAg Confirmation assay, GEM4201, version 13.1. Ortho-Clinical Diagnostics, Inc; 09/06/2019)

Hepatitis Be Antigen:

This test is performed using an immunometric technique involving the simultaneous reaction of hepatitis Be antigen (HBeAg) in the sample with biotinylated mouse monoclonal HBeAg antibody and HRP-labeled mouse monoclonal HBeAg antibody in the conjugate. The immune complex is captured by streptavidin on the wells; unbound materials are removed by washing. The bound HRP conjugate is measured by a luminescent reaction. A reagent containing luminogenic substrates (a luminol derivative and a peracid salt) and an electron transfer agent are added to the wells. The HRP in the bound conjugate catalyzes the oxidation of the luminol derivative, producing light. The electron transfer agent (a substituted acetanilide) increases the level of light produced and prolongs its emission. The light signals are read by the system. The amount of HRP conjugate bound is indicative of the level of HBeAg present in the sample. (Package insert: VITROS Immunodiagnostic Product HBeAg Reagent Pack, No. GEM1222, version 9.1. Ortho-Clinical Diagnostics, Inc; 09/06/2019)

Hepatitis Be Antibody:

This test is performed using a competitive technique which involves preincubation of anti-hepatitis Be antibody (anti-HBe) IgG in the sample with a fixed weight of HBeAg in the assay reagent, followed by incubation with a conjugate reagent that contains biotinylated mouse monoclonal anti-HBe IgG and HRP-labelled mouse monoclonal anti-HBe IgG. The immune complex is captured by streptavidin on the wells. Unbound materials are removed by washing. The bound HRP conjugate is measured by a luminescent reaction. A reagent containing luminogenic substrates (a luminol derivative and a peracid salt) and an electron transfer agent are added to the wells. The HRP in the bound conjugate catalyzes the oxidation of the luminol derivative, producing light. The electron transfer agent (a substituted acetanilide) increases the level of light produced and prolongs its emission. The light signals are read by the system. The amount of HRP conjugate bound is indicative of the level of anti-HBe IgG present in the sample. (Package insert: VITROS Immunodiagnostic Product Anti-HBe Reagent Pack, No. GEM1223, version 9.1. Ortho-Clinical Diagnostics, Inc; 09/06/2019)
PDF Report
No

Day(s) and Time(s) Test Performed
Monday through Saturday; Varies

Analytic Time
1 day

Maximum Laboratory Time
4 days

Specimen Retention Time
14 days

Performing Laboratory Location
Rochester

Fees and Codes

Fees
- Authorized users can sign in to Test Prices for detailed fee information.
- Clients without access to Test Prices can contact Customer Service 24 hours a day, seven days a week.
- Prospective clients should contact their Regional Manager. For assistance, contact Customer Service.

Test Classification
This test has been cleared, approved or is exempt by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration and is used per manufacturer's instructions. Performance characteristics were verified by Mayo Clinic in a manner consistent with CLIA requirements.

CPT Code Information
86707
87340
87350
87341 (if appropriate)

LOINC® Information

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<td>Chronic Hepatitis Profile (Type B)</td>
<td>In Process</td>
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<th>Test Result Name</th>
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<td>Hepatitis Be Ag, S</td>
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