

# Legacy Laboratory Services

## Legacy Lab Alert

June 2021

An Important Update from Legacy Laboratory Services

### UPDATE: Legacy Offers Hepatitis C Antibody with Reflex

Effective June 30, 2021, Legacy Laboratory Services will offer a new orderable, **Hepatitis C Antibody with Reflex (mnemonic: HEP C AB RFLX)**. The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) recommend testing for hepatitis C virus with a Hepatitis C Antibody test. For patients who have a positive antibody test should have follow-up testing with a nucleic acid test for detection of HCV RNA.<sup>1</sup> Legacy's new orderable will make following this algorithm easier by automatically reflexing specimens with Reactive or Equivocal Hepatitis C Antibody results to Hepatitis C RNA testing by RT-PCR.

For this new orderable, two tubes are required:

- One **Gold Top Tube** (serum, SST) is required for the antibody screen,
- AND**
- One **Lavender Top Tube** (EDTA plasma) **OR** a separate **Gold Top Tube** (serum, SST) is required for RT-PCR testing.

The individual tests will remain as separate orderables as well. A summary of the specimen requirements for all three tests is listed in Table 1.

**Table 1: Specimen Requirements**

Parameters	NEW (Starts 6/30/21)	Hepatitis C Antibody	Hepatitis C RNA, Quantitative by PCR
	Hepatitis C Antibody with Reflex		
<b>Mnemonic</b>	HEP C AB RFLX	HEP C AB	HEPC QNT
<b>Includes</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hepatitis C Antibody Screen</li> <li>• If indicated: Hepatitis C RNA</li> </ul>	Hepatitis C Antibody Only	Hepatitis C RNA Only
<b>Collect</b>	<p>Serum, one 5 mL <b>Gold Top Tube</b> (SST) <b>AND</b> <b>EDTA Plasma</b>, one 4 mL <b>Lavender Top Tube</b></p> <p><b>OR</b></p> <p>Serum, <b>TWO</b> 5 mL <b>Gold Top Tubes</b> (SST)</p>	Serum, one 5 mL Gold (SST) or 7 mL Red Top Tube	Serum or EDTA Plasma, one 5 mL Gold (SST) or 4 mL Lavender Top Tube
<b>Handling</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Gold Top</b>: Allow serum to clot completely at room temperature (minimum - SST: 30 minutes). Centrifuge and separate serum from cells ASAP and immediately refrigerate (2-8°C).</li> </ul>	Allow serum to clot completely at room temperature (minimum - Red Top: 60 minutes; SST: 30 minutes). Centrifuge and separate serum from cells ASAP and immediately refrigerate (2-8°C).	Allow serum to clot completely at room temperature (minimum - SST: 30 minutes). Separate serum or EDTA plasma from cells within 24 hours of collection. Transfer 3.0 mL serum or EDTA plasma into a plastic aliquot tube

**Table 1: Specimen Requirements**

Parameters		NEW (Starts 6/30/21)	Hepatitis C Antibody	Hepatitis C RNA, Quantitative by PCR
		Hepatitis C Antibody with Reflex		
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Lavender Top:</b> Separate EDTA plasma from cells within 24 hours of collection. Transfer 3.0 mL EDTA plasma into a plastic aliquot tube and immediately freeze (<math>\leq -20^{\circ}\text{C}</math>).</li> </ul>		and immediately freeze ( $\leq -20^{\circ}\text{C}$ ).
<b>Preferred Volume</b>		<b>Serum from Gold Top Tube #1:</b> 1.0 mL <b>EDTA Plasma or Serum from Gold Top Tube #2:</b> 3.0 mL	1.0 mL Serum	3.0 mL Serum or EDTA Plasma
<b>Minimum Volume</b>		<b>Serum from Gold Top Tube #1:</b> 0.25 mL (0.6 mL minimum whole blood draw)  <b>EDTA Plasma or Serum from Gold Top Tube #2:</b> 1.5 mL (3.75 mL minimum whole blood draw)	0.25 mL Serum (0.6 mL minimum whole blood draw)	1.5 mL Serum or EDTA Plasma (3.75 mL minimum whole blood draw)
<b>Stability (after separation from cells)</b>	Room Temp. (18-26 °C)	<b>Serum for Screen:</b> 24 hours  <b>EDTA Plasma or Serum for PCR:</b> Unacceptable	24 hours	Unacceptable
	Refrigerated (2-8 °C)	<b>Serum for Screen:</b> 7 days  <b>EDTA Plasma or Serum for PCR:</b> 3 days	7 days	3 days
	Frozen ( $\leq -20^{\circ}\text{C}$ )	<b>Serum for Screen:</b> 2 months  <b>EDTA Plasma or Serum for PCR:</b> 6 weeks	2 months	6 weeks
<b>Transport</b>		<b>Serum for Screen:</b> Refrigerated (2-8°C) <b>EDTA Plasma or Serum for PCR:</b> Frozen ( $\leq -20^{\circ}\text{C}$ )	Refrigerated (2-8°C)	Frozen ( $\leq -20^{\circ}\text{C}$ )
<b>Unacceptable Conditions</b>		<b>Serum for Screen:</b> Grossly hemolyzed specimens, Plasma specimens  <b>EDTA Plasma or Serum for PCR:</b> Heparinized plasma, Specimen past stability, Specimens tested in non-molecular labs, Specimens with inadequate volume	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Grossly hemolyzed specimens</li> <li>Plasma specimens</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Heparinized plasma</li> <li>Specimen past stability</li> <li>Specimens tested in non-molecular labs</li> <li>Specimens with inadequate volume</li> </ul>
<b>Note</b>		<b>EDTA plasma or Serum for PCR:</b> cannot be shared with other departments.  <b>Reactive or Equivocal</b> Hepatitis C Antibody results will be reflexed to Hepatitis C RNA testing for confirmation.	-----	Samples cannot be shared with other departments.
<b>Reference Interval</b>		See individual tests.	Non-reactive	Not Detected
<b>Performed</b>		<b>Hep C Ab:</b> Mon-Sat <b>Hep C RNA:</b> Mon-Fri (if indicated)	Mon-Sat	Mon-Fri (batched)
<b>Reported</b>		1-7 days	1-2 days	1-4 days
<b>Method</b>		<b>Hep C Ab:</b> CIA <b>Hep C RNA:</b> RT-PCR	Chemiluminescent Immunoassay (CIA)	Quantitative Reverse Transcriptase Polymerase Chain Reaction (RT-PCR)
<b>CPT Code</b>		<b>Hep C Ab:</b> 86803 <b>Hep C RNA:</b> 87522 (if indicated)	86803	87522

For additional information, please contact your account representative, client services or consult our website:

Legacy Laboratory Client Services: 503-413-1234, 877-270-5566, [www.legacyhealth.org/labservices](http://www.legacyhealth.org/labservices)