



HEPATITIS C VIRUS QUANTITATIVE (HCVQ) FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q: What is the intended use of the HCVQ?

A: The HCVQ is intended for the diagnosis of active Hepatitis C Virus infection and viral load monitoring.

Q: What test should I order?

A: A positive Hepatitis C Antibody screen (HCV) will automatically reflex to the HCVQ. You may also order the HCVQ for viral load monitoring.

Q: What types of specimens should be submitted for HCV Quant D?

A: 1.5 mL minimum of serum or EDTA plasma.

Serum must be collected in a serum separator tube, red top tube, or EDTA plasma tube.

Serum separator tubes must be centrifuged within 6 hours of collection.

Serum or plasma from red top tube or EDTA tube must be centrifuged and transferred to another collection container within 6 hours of collection.

Q: How is serum for HCV Quant Dx Assay stored?

A: Serum/plasma should be refrigerated at 2-8 C within 24 hours of collection for up to 5 days.

Q: When can samples for HCV Quant Dx Assay be collected?

A: Specimens should be collected Monday-Thursday to avoid delay in testing.

Q: How long can sample be stored before testing?

A: Serum sample must be tested within 5 days of collection, unless frozen at -20 C.

Q: How should specimen be labeled?

A: Label specimen with patient name, d.o.b., and collection date.

Q: What paperwork should accompany a HCV Quant Dx Assay specimen for testing?

A: The SDPHL specimen requisition should accompany all specimens sent for testing.

Q: How are specimens for HCV Quant Dx Assay sent?

A: Specimens should be sent with the courier to the SDPHL. If transport will be delayed, serum/plasma specimens should be separated from cells and stored frozen at -20 C.

Q: When will samples be tested?

A: Specimens that need HCV Quant Dx Assay will be batched and tested once per week.

Revised: 03/09/2023