



Hepatitis B DNA and Viral Load

Synonyms	Hepatitis B PCR
Clinical Indication	<p>Please give detailed clinical information, including date of onset/contact with the suspected infection and any treatment given, to enable the correct test(s) to be performed.</p> <p>Used to establish viral load of known HBV positive patients. May also be used to clarify status in very early infections where marker profile is unclear.</p>
Part of Profile / See Also	Detection of Hepatitis B virus DNA by polymerase chain reaction (PCR)
Request Form	ICE order comms form (Handwritten request – only if order comms not available).
Availability / Frequency of Analysis	Referred test: Available on request during normal working hours. Sent to Micropathology Ltd Coventry 9622 for analysis.
Turnaround Time	10 days
Patient Preparation	
Sample Requirements	
Specimen Type	Whole Blood or Serum
Volume	5 ml
Container	 <p>Purple top (EDTA) preferred but Yellow top (SST) tube also accepted</p>  <p>Paediatric Lavender top (EDTA)</p> <p>Samples should be transported to laboratory immediately</p>
Reference Range & Units	IU/mL
Interferences	Do not use grossly haemolysed, contaminated or highly lipaemic samples.
Interpretation & Clinical Decision Value (if applicable)	
References	
Test code	BPC Hepatitis B PCR BVLC Hepatitis B Viral Load
Lab Handling	Send sample to the reference laboratory as soon as possible.