Effective November 18, 2014, the clinical laboratory will switch methodologies for Hepatitis B Core Ab, Total and Hepatitis B Core Ab, IgM tests. The switch will be from the Siemens ADVIA Centaur Chemiluminescent Immunoassays to the Abbott ARCHITECT i1000 Chemiluminescent Microparticle Immunoassays (CMIA).

Sample Requirements: Collect - SST (gold top) or plain red top serum or EDTA plasma, 4 mL

Patient Preparation: None

Storage/Transport: Deliver at room temperature to the laboratory for processing. If sample cannot be delivered to the laboratory within 8 hours of collection, centrifuge sample and transport separated serum or plasma refrigerated at 2-8°C.

Stability: Separated serum/plasma: Room temperature for 72 hrs; refrigerated 2-8°C for 7 days, or frozen at -20°C for longer storage.

Minimum Volume: 0.3 mL serum/plasma for each test

Unacceptable Conditions: samples other than serum or EDTA plasma; samples not held at correct temperature; and grossly hemolyzed samples.

Reference Interval: Nonreactive

Interpretive Information:
Hepatitis B Core Ab, Total detects both IgM and IgG antibodies to Hepatitis B core; Hepatitis B Core Ab, IgM detects only IgM antibodies to Hepatitis B core. Anti-HBc antibodies are found in serum shortly after the appearance of hepatitis B surface antigen (HBsAg) in acute HBV infections. They will persist after the disappearance of HBsAg and before the appearance of detectable antibody to HBsAg (anti-HBs). Anti-HBc antibodies are not produced after vaccination. They are produced by actual infection with the HBV virus.

Routine Testing: Hepatitis B Core Ab, Total = M,W,Th,F dayshift; Hepatitis B Core Ab, IgM = M,W,F dayshift in Special Chemistry at the STC location.

If you have questions or need additional information, please contact Laboratory Client Services at (916) 734-7373 or email pathologyclientservices@ucdmc.ucdavis.edu.