



UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO
HOSPITAL

ANSCHUTZ MEDICAL CAMPUS

**Test Update
HCV PCR Testing**

Effective October 1, 2008, the University of Colorado Hospital Clinical Laboratory will begin using the Roche Ampliprep and Taqman 48 for HCV viral load testing. This real-time PCR platform offers a quantitative range of 25 IU/mL to 10,000,000 IU/mL. The HCVPCR test will be offered twice a week and replaces the HCVRNA, HCVQUANT, and HCVRFLX tests.

New Test Code	HCVPCR
Methodology	Roche Ampliprep/Taqman 48
Performed	Monday and Thursday
Reported	Same day or next run
Specimen type	One 7 mL purple top EDTA completely filled. Each test requires one full 7 mL tube for testing. Serum is not acceptable and will be rejected.
Rejection	Sample not properly identified; incorrect blood collection tube; insufficient volume; heparinized sample; improperly stored sample.
Stability	Refrigerated: 6 hours
Quantitative	<25 IU/mL.....negative
Ranges	26-10,000,000 IU/mL....quantitatively positive
	>10,000,000 IU/mL.....positive, above linear quantitative range
CPT	87522
Discontinued Tests	HCVRNA (Hep C RNA by PCR – qualitative) HCVQUANT (Hep C RNA by PCR quantitative on Abbott/Celera) HCVRFLX (Hep C PCR Qualitative with reflex to quantitative)

If you have questions or special concerns, please contact the University of Colorado Hospital Clinical Laboratory Molecular Diagnostics at 720-848-6892 or visit our website at <http://clinlab.uch.edu> for additional information.

Issued 9-18-08

Clinical Laboratory
Medical Director Ronald B. Lepoff, MD