

Description: This panel consists of the following tests:

- Hepatitis A antibody (HAAb), IgM antibody;
- Hepatitis B core antibody (HBcAb), IgM antibody;
- Hepatitis B surface antigen (HBsAg) and;
- Hepatitis C antibody.

Hepatitis is an inflammation of the liver resulting from viruses, drugs, toxins, and other etiologies. Viral hepatitis is caused by several different viruses, designated hepatitis A, B, C, and E. Most cases are caused by hepatitis A virus (HAV), hepatitis B virus (HBV), and hepatitis C virus (HCV).

HAV is the most common cause of hepatitis in children and adolescents in the United States. Prior exposure is indicated by the presence of hepatitis A antibody (HAAb). Acute HAV is diagnosed by IgM anti-HAV, which typically appears within four weeks of exposure, and which disappears within a few weeks of appearance. IgG anti-HAV is similar in the timing of its appearance, but it persists indefinitely. Its detection indicates recovery from infection. Although HAV is spread most commonly by fecal-oral exposure, standard immune globulin can be used for post-exposure prophylaxis.

HBV produces three separate antigens (surface, core, and e (envelope) antigens) when it infects the liver, although only the surface antigen (HBsAg) is included as part of this panel. Following exposure, the body normally responds by producing antibodies against these antigens, which is included in this panel: hepatitis B surface antibody (HBsAb)-IgM antibody. HBsAg is the earlier marker to appear after exposure, and typically disappearing within six months after its appearance. If HBsAg remains detectable for more than six months, it is considered chronic HBV infection. HBcAb, in the form of both IgG and IgM antibodies, are next to appear in serum, typically within two to four months following exposure. The IgM antibody gradually declines or disappears entirely one to two years following exposure, but the IgG antibody is detectable for life. Because HBsAg is present for a relatively short period and usually displays a low titer, a negative result does not rule out a diagnosis. HBcAb, on the other hand, rises to a much higher titer and remains elevated for a longer period of time. HBcAb is not detectable in acute disease, since it may be the result of a prior infection. The last marker to appear in the course of a typical infection is hepatitis B e antigen (HBeAg) and hepatitis B e antibody (HBeAb), the envelope antigen and antibody, are not included in this panel. In serum four to six months following exposure to infected blood or body fluids; in the U.S., sexual transmission accounts for approximately 10% of HBV infection.

The diagnosis of acute HBV infection is best established by documentation of positive IgM antibody against the surface antigen (HBsAg) and the identification of a positive hepatitis B surface antigen (HBsAg). The diagnosis of chronic HBV infection is established by the presence of hepatitis B surface antigen (HBsAg) and demonstrating positive IgG antibody directed against the core antigen (HBcAb). Hepatitis B e antigen (HBeAg) and hepatitis B e antibody (HBeAb), the envelope antigen and antibody, are not included in this panel. The presence of HBeAg is of importance in assessing the infectivity of patients with HBV. Following completion of a HBV vaccination series, a negative result is obtained for up to six months, or until a positive result is obtained, to verify an adequate antibody response.

HCV is the most common cause of post-transfusion hepatitis; overall HCV is responsible for 15% to 20% of all cases of chronic liver disease. The test most commonly used to identify HCV measures HCV antibodies. The test is usually positive within two months after infection. False positive HCV results can occur. For example, a patient with a recent yeast infection may have a positive result. For this reason, at present positive results usually are confirmed by a more specific technique. Like HBV, HCV is spread by exposure to infected blood or body fluids.

This panel of tests is used for differential diagnosis in a patient with symptoms of liver disease or injury. When the cause of liver disease is not known, a patient with continued symptoms of liver disease despite a completely negative hepatitis panel should be retested approximately two weeks to two months later to exclude the possibility of hepatitis. Once a diagnosis is established, the course of the disease can be determined.

Indications:

1. To detect viral hepatitis infection when there are abnormal liver function test results, with or without signs or symptoms.
2. Prior to and subsequent to liver transplantation.

Limitations:

After a hepatitis diagnosis is established, only individual tests are needed.

Frequency Limitations: After a hepatitis diagnosis has been established, only individual tests, rather than the entire panel, are needed.

To review all requirements of this policy, please see: [CMS NCD listing by Chapter](#)

Covered ICD-10 Codes.

ICD-10	Descriptor
A92.5	Zika virus disease
B15.0	Hepatitis A with hepatic coma
B15.9	Hepatitis A without hepatic coma
B16.0	Acute hepatitis B with delta-agent with hepatic coma
B16.1	Acute hepatitis B with delta-agent without hepatic coma
B16.2	Acute hepatitis B without delta-agent with hepatic coma
B16.9	Acute hepatitis B w/o delta-agent and without hepatic coma
B17.0	Acute delta-(super) infection of hepatitis B carrier
B17.10	Acute hepatitis C without hepatic coma
B17.11	Acute hepatitis C with hepatic coma
B17.2	Acute hepatitis E
B17.8	Other specified acute viral hepatitis
B17.9	Acute viral hepatitis, unspecified
B18.0	Chronic viral hepatitis B with delta-agent
B18.1	Chronic viral hepatitis B without delta-agent
B18.2	Chronic viral hepatitis C
B18.8	Other chronic viral hepatitis
B18.9	Chronic viral hepatitis, unspecified
B19.0	Unspecified viral hepatitis with hepatic coma
B19.10	Unspecified viral hepatitis B without hepatic coma
B19.11	Unspecified viral hepatitis B with hepatic coma
B19.20	Unspecified viral hepatitis C without hepatic coma
B19.21	Unspecified viral hepatitis C with hepatic coma
B19.9	Unspecified viral hepatitis without hepatic coma
F11.11	Opioid abuse, in remission
F12.93	Cannabis use, unspecified with withdrawal
F14.11	Cocaine abuse, in remission

F15.11	Other stimulant abuse, in remission
G93.3	Postviral fatigue syndrome
I85.00	Esophageal varices without bleeding
I85.01	Esophageal varices with bleeding
I85.10	Secondary esophageal varices without bleeding
I85.11	Secondary esophageal varices with bleeding
K70.41	Alcoholic hepatic failure with coma
K71.0	Toxic liver disease with cholestasis
K71.10	Toxic liver disease with hepatic necrosis, without coma
K71.11	Toxic liver disease with hepatic necrosis, with coma
K71.2	Toxic liver disease with acute hepatitis
K71.3	Toxic liver disease with chronic persistent hepatitis
K71.4	Toxic liver disease with chronic lobular hepatitis
K71.50	Toxic liver disease w chronic active hepatitis w/o ascites
K71.51	Toxic liver disease w chronic active hepatitis with ascites
K71.6	Toxic liver disease with hepatitis, not elsewhere classified
K71.7	Toxic liver disease with fibrosis and cirrhosis of liver
K71.8	Toxic liver disease with other disorders of liver
K71.9	Toxic liver disease, unspecified
K72.00	Acute and subacute hepatic failure without coma
K72.01	Acute and subacute hepatic failure with coma
K72.10	Chronic hepatic failure without coma
K72.11	Chronic hepatic failure with coma
K72.90	Hepatic failure, unspecified without coma
K72.91	Hepatic failure, unspecified with coma
K74.00	Hepatic fibrosis, unspecified
K74.01	Hepatic fibrosis, early fibrosis
K74.02	Hepatic fibrosis, advanced fibrosis
K74.60	Unspecified cirrhosis of liver
K74.69	Other cirrhosis of liver
K75.0	Abscess of liver
K75.1	Phlebitis of portal vein
K75.2	Nonspecific reactive hepatitis
K75.3	Granulomatous hepatitis, not elsewhere classified
K75.81	Nonalcoholic steatohepatitis (NASH)
K75.89	Other specified inflammatory liver diseases
K75.9	Inflammatory liver disease, unspecified
K76.2	Central hemorrhagic necrosis of liver
K76.4	Peliosis hepatis
K76.6	Portal hypertension
K76.7	Hepatorenal syndrome
K76.81	Hepatopulmonary syndrome

M04.1	Periodic fever syndromes
R10.0	Acute abdomen
R10.10	Upper abdominal pain, unspecified
R10.11	Right upper quadrant pain
R10.12	Left upper quadrant pain
R10.13	Epigastric pain
R10.2	Pelvic and perineal pain
R10.30	Lower abdominal pain, unspecified
R10.31	Right lower quadrant pain
R10.32	Left lower quadrant pain
R10.33	Periumbilical pain
R10.811	Right upper quadrant abdominal tenderness
R10.821	Right upper quadrant rebound abdominal tenderness
R10.83	Colic
R10.84	Generalized abdominal pain
R10.9	Unspecified abdominal pain
R11.0	Nausea
R11.10	Vomiting, unspecified
R11.11	Vomiting without nausea
R11.12	Projectile vomiting
R11.14	Bilious vomiting
R11.15	Cyclical vomiting syndrome unrelated to migraine
R11.2	Nausea with vomiting, unspecified
R16.0	Hepatomegaly, not elsewhere classified
R16.2	Hepatomegaly with splenomegaly, not elsewhere classified
R17	Unspecified jaundice
R40.2410	Glasgow coma scale score 13-15, unspecified time
R40.2411	Glasgow coma scale score 13-15, in the field
R40.2412	Glasgow coma scale score 13-15, EMR
R40.2413	Glasgow coma scale score 13-15, at hospital admission
R40.2414	Glasgow coma scale score 13-15, 24+hrs
R40.2420	Glasgow coma scale score 9-12, unspecified time
R40.2421	Glasgow coma scale score 9-12, in the field
R40.2422	Glasgow coma scale score 9-12, EMR
R40.2423	Glasgow coma scale score 9-12, at hospital admission
R40.2424	Glasgow coma scale score 9-12, 24+hrs
R40.2430	Glasgow coma scale score 3-8, unspecified time
R40.2431	Glasgow coma scale score 3-8, in the field
R40.2432	Glasgow coma scale score 3-8, EMR
R40.2433	Glasgow coma scale score 3-8, at hospital admission
R40.2434	Glasgow coma scale score 3-8, 24+hrs
R40.2440	Other coma, without Glasgow, or w/part score, unsp time

R40.2441	Other coma, without Glasgow, or w/part score, in the field
R40.2442	Other coma, without documented Glasgow, or w/part score, EMR
R40.2443	Other coma, without Glasgow, or w/part score, admit
R40.2444	Other coma, without Glasgow, or w/part score, 24+hurs
R53.0	Neoplastic (malignant) related fatigue
R53.1	Weakness
R53.2	Functional quadriplegia
R53.81	Other malaise
R53.82	Chronic fatigue, unspecified
R53.83	Other fatigue
R56.00	Simple febrile convulsions
R56.01	Complex febrile convulsions
R56.1	Post traumatic seizures
R62.0	Delayed milestone in childhood
R62.50	Unsp lack of expected normal physiol dev in childhood
R62.51	Failure to thrive (child)
R62.52	Short stature (child)
R62.59	Oth lack of expected normal physiol development in childhood
R63.0	Anorexia
R63.1	Polydipsia
R63.2	Polyphagia
R63.30	Feeding difficulties, unspecified
R63.31	Pediatric feeding disorder, acute
R63.32	Pediatric feeding disorder, chronic
R63.39	Other feeding difficulties
R63.4	Abnormal weight loss
R63.5	Abnormal weight gain
R63.6	Underweight
R74.01	Elevation of levels of liver transaminase levels
R74.02	Elevation of levels of lactic acid dehydrogenase [LDH]
R94.5	Abnormal results of liver function studies
T86.40	Unspecified complication of liver transplant
T86.41	Liver transplant rejection
T86.42	Liver transplant failure
T86.43	Liver transplant infection
T86.49	Other complications of liver transplant
Z01.89	Encounter for other specified special examinations
Z05.0	Obs & eval of NB for suspected cardiac condition ruled out
Z05.1	Obs & eval of NB for suspected infect condition ruled out
Z05.2	Obs & eval of NB for suspected neuro condition ruled out
Z05.3	Obs & eval of NB for suspected resp condition ruled out
Z05.41	Obs & eval of NB for suspected genetic condition ruled out

Z05.42	Obs & eval of NB for suspected metabolic condition ruled out
Z05.43	Obs & eval of NB for suspected immunologic cond ruled out
Z05.5	Obs & eval of NB for suspected GI condition ruled out
Z05.6	Obs & eval of NB for suspected GU condition ruled out
Z05.71	Obs & eval of NB for suspected skin, subcu cond ruled out
Z05.72	Obs & eval of NB for suspected ms condition ruled out
Z05.73	Obs & eval of NB for suspected conn tiss condition ruled out
Z05.8	Obs & eval of NB for oth suspected condition ruled out
Z05.9	Obs & eval of NB for unsp suspected condition ruled out
Z19.1	Hormone sensitive malignancy status
Z19.2	Hormone resistant malignancy status
Z29.11	Enctr for prphylc immther for resp syncytial virus (RSV)
Z84.82	Family history of sudden infant death syndrome

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