



**CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO  
PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY**  
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## Test Order

### Hepatitis C RNA Confirmatory Testing

Synonym(s)	HCV RNA Detection, HCV RT-PCR Viral Load
Methodology	Real Time RT-PCR
Acceptable Specimen Type(s) for Testing	Whole blood, human plasma
Transport / Collection Medium	Plasma collection tubes (EDTA)
Storage and Preservation of Specimen	Freshly drawn specimens (whole blood) may be held at 15-30°C <b>for up to 4 hours</b> or at 2-8°C for up to 3 days, prior to centrifugation. After centrifugation, plasma specimens may be stored at 15-30°C for up to 20 hours or 2-8°C <b>for up to 3 days</b> . If longer storage is required, plasma specimens must be held at -70°C or lower.
Minimum Volume Required	3.0 mL of whole blood or 1.5 mL of plasma
Additional Collection Instructions	N/A
Additional Required Information	<b>Collection date and time required on requisition form.</b>
Send Out?	No
Turnaround Time	7 business days (M-F)
Testing Restrictions	Only for contracted submitters.
Requisition Form(s)	<a href="http://sfcdcp.org/document.html?id=1035">http://sfcdcp.org/document.html?id=1035</a>
Limitations / Notes / Disclaimers	For confirmation and/or medical management of Hepatitis C infection.

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