TEST:  HEPATITIS C VIRUS ANTIBODY (ANTI-HCV)

PRINCIPLE:
The hepatitis C virus (HCV) is now known to be the causative agent for most, if not all, blood-borne non-A, non-B hepatitis (NANBH). Studies throughout the world indicate that HCV is transmitted through contaminated blood and blood products, through blood transfusions or through other close, personal contacts. The presence of anti-HCV indicates that an individual may have been infected with HCV and may be capable of transmitting HCV infection. 1

SPECIMEN REQUIREMENTS:
2ml serum collected in a red top tube with no additive or in a serum separator tube (gel barrier). Serum should be separated from the clot as soon as possible to avoid hemolysis. Store at 2-8°C for 48 hours. Store frozen at -20°C if not tested within 48 hours. Avoid repeat freeze-thaw cycles.

METHOD:  Enhanced Chemiluminescence

REFERENCES:


Normal Range:  Negative
   Reported as negative or reactive

Turnaround Time:  3 days