

# Laboratory Procedure Manual

*Analyte:* **Hepatitis B Surface Antibody (anti-HBS)**

*Matrix:* **Serum**

*Method:* ***aHBs - Anti-HBs***  
***VITROS Immunodiagnostic Products(REF 680 1925)***

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*Revised:*

*As performed by:* **Diagnostic Reference Team  
Laboratory Branch  
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## Important Information for Users

The National Center for HIV/AIDS, Viral Hepatitis, STD, and TB Prevention periodically refines these laboratory methods. It is the responsibility of the user to contact the person listed on the title page of each write-up before using the analytical method to find out whether any changes have been made and what revisions, if any, have been incorporated.

## Public Release Data Set Information

This document details the Lab Protocol for testing the items listed in the following table:

<b>Data File Name</b>	<b>Variable Name</b>	<b>SAS Label</b>	<b>CLIA Approved</b>
HEPB_S_L	LBXHBS	Hepatitis B Surface Antibody (anti-HBs)	Yes

## 1. SUMMARY OF TEST PRINCIPLE AND CLINICAL RELEVANCE

Clinical relevance:

Hepatitis is inflammation of the liver most often caused by a virus. Viral hepatitis is a major public health problem of global importance because of the ongoing transmission of viruses that cause the disease and increased morbidity and mortality associated with the acute and chronic consequences of these infections. Global and US goals have been established for elimination of viral hepatitis as a public health threat by 2030.

In the US, the most common types of viral hepatitis are hepatitis A, B, and C. Effective vaccines are available to help prevent hepatitis A and hepatitis B. No vaccine is available for hepatitis C; however, highly effective, well-tolerated treatment can cure hepatitis C virus infection. Hepatitis D virus infection is less common in the US and can occur only among persons with hepatitis B virus infection. Hepatitis E infection also is less common in the US. These five hepatitis viruses, also called hepatitides, are well-characterized for detection with laboratory assays and are monitored in U.S. public health surveillance systems.

NHANES viral hepatitis data are used to monitor progress toward goals in Healthy People and the HHS Viral Hepatitis National Strategic Plan, which in turn support US and global viral hepatitis elimination goals. The viral hepatitis laboratory and interview components of NHANES complement data from outbreak, case-based surveillance, vital statistics, health care systems, and cohort studies that can provide timely, detailed, or longitudinal information for subnational geographic areas and disproportionately affected populations, such as persons experiencing homelessness or living in correctional facilities; however, these sources lack information available from NHANES, such as race, ethnicity, education, income, and health status and behavior.

Viral hepatitis data from NHANES are available beginning with the Second NHANES conducted during 1976-1980 for hepatitis A and hepatitis B, and with the Third NHANES conducted during 1988-1994 for hepatitis C, hepatitis D and hepatitis E.

Testing for hepatitis B surface antibody contributes information important to distinguish immunity from vaccination among persons who lack antibodies to hepatitis B core. Assay results may be used as an aid in the determination of susceptibility to hepatitis B virus (HBV) infection for individuals prior to or following HBV vaccination, or where vaccination status is unknown.

An estimated 300 million people worldwide are persistent carriers of hepatitis B virus (HBV). Infection with HBV results in a wide spectrum of acute and chronic liver diseases that may lead to cirrhosis and hepatocellular carcinoma. Transmission of HBV occurs by percutaneous exposure to blood products and contaminated instruments, sexual contact and perinatally from HBV-infected mothers to their unborn child. In 2022, U.S. vaccination guidelines were updated to recommend hepatitis B vaccination for all infants, unvaccinated children aged <19 years, adults aged 19 through 59 years, and adults aged 60 years and older with risk factors for hepatitis B.

HBV infection produces an array of unique antigens and antibody responses that, in general, follow distinct serological patterns.

Hepatitis B surface antibody (anti-HBs) is measured using the VITROS Anti-HBs Quantitative assay. The test is performed using the VITROS Anti-HBs Quantitative Reagent Pack and VITROS Immunodiagnostic Products Anti-HBs Calibrators on the VITROS 3600 Immunodiagnostic System.

Examined participants aged 2 years and older in the NHANES August 2021-August 2023 sample were eligible for the hepatitis B surface antibody test.

### **Test principle:**

Hepatitis B surface antibody (anti-HBs) is measured using the VITROS Anti-HBs test. The test is performed using the VITROS Anti-HBs Reagent Pack and the VITROS Anti-HBs Calibrators on the the VITROS 3600 Immunodiagnostic System using Intellicheck® Technology. An immunometric immunoassay technique is used. This involves the reaction of anti-HBs present in the sample with an HBsAg (ad and ay subtypes) coated on the wells. The horseradish peroxidase (HRP)-labeled HBsAg conjugate (ad and ay subtypes) then complexes with the bound anti-HBs forming an “antigen sandwich”. Unbound materials are removed by washing.

The bound HRP conjugate is measured by a luminescent reaction. A reagent containing luminogenic substrates (a luminol derivative and a peracid salt) and an electron transfer agent is added to the wells. The HRP in the bound conjugate catalyzes the oxidation of the luminol derivative, producing light. The electron transfer agent (a substituted acetanilide) increases the level of light produced and prolongs its emission. The light signals are read by the system. The amount of HRP conjugate bound is directly proportional to the concentration of anti-HBs present.

## **2. SAFETY PRECAUTIONS**

All reagents included in the kit are intended for "in vitro diagnostic use".

Do not eat, drink, smoke, or apply cosmetics where immunodiagnostic materials are being handled.

Do not pipette by mouth.

Any equipment directly in contact with specimens and reagents as well as washing solutions should be considered as contaminated products and treated as such.

Wear lab coats and disposable gloves when handling reagents and samples and thoroughly wash your hands after handling them.

Avoid spilling samples or solutions containing samples.

Provide adequate ventilation.

*The VITROS Anti-HBs conjugate reagent and assay reagent contain Kathon. May cause sensitization by skin contact. Harmful to aquatic organisms, may cause long-term adverse effects in the aquatic environment. Avoid contact with skin. Wear suitable gloves.*

### **3. COMPUTERIZATION; Enterprise Laboratory Information System (ELIMS)**

CDC Enterprise Laboratory Information System (ELIMS) is has been used since January 1, 2020, for accessioning, test results processing, reporting and storage. Finished ELIMS data are reviewed by the laboratory supervisor and transmitted to the NCHS along with other NHANES data. All information about the accessioned specimens, traceability of the diagnostic process, test runs and reported results are stored in the ELIMS database, are archived after 12 months and can be retrieved any time upon request.

Documentation for ELIMS is maintained on an intranet site accessible by laboratory staff.

### **4. SPECIMEN COLLECTION, STORAGE, AND HANDLING PROCEDURES; CRITERIA FOR SPECIMEN REJECTION**

Specimens and controls should be handled as if infectious using safe laboratory procedures such as those outlined in *Biosafety in Microbiological and Biomedical Laboratories* and in the CLSI Document M29-A. Thoroughly clean and disinfect all work surfaces with a freshly prepared solution of 0.5% sodium hypochlorite in deionized or distilled water.

No special patient preparation is necessary.

*Specimens Recommended: Serum*

Do not use turbid specimens. Turbidity in specimens may affect test results.

Do not use plasma samples.

Collect specimens using standard procedures.

Samples should be thoroughly separated from all cellular material. Failure to do so may lead to a falsely elevated result.

Thoroughly mix samples by inversion and bring to 15–30 °C (59–86 °F) before use.

The VITROS Anti-HBs test uses 80 µL of sample for each determination. This does not take account of the minimum fill volume of the chosen sample container. For details on minimum fill volume of sample cups or containers, refer to the operating instructions for your system.

Handle samples in stoppered containers to avoid contamination and evaporation. Use a separate disposable tip if samples are manually pipetted. Avoid splashing, forming an aerosol, or cross-contaminating sample tube stoppers.

The amount of time samples are on the system prior to analysis should be limited to avoid evaporation. This time should not exceed 2 hours. Refer to the operating instructions for your system.

Return to 2–8 °C (36–46 °F) as soon as possible after use or load sufficient volume for a single determination.

The National Committee for Clinical Laboratory Standards (NCCLS) provides the following recommendations for storing serum specimens:

- Store samples at 22 °C (72 °F) for no longer than 8 hours.
- If the test will not be completed within 8 hours, refrigerate the serum at 2–8 °C (36–46 °F).
- If the test will not be completed within 48 hours, or for shipment, freeze the serum at or below -20 °C (-4 °F).

Samples are not to be repeatedly frozen and thawed because this can cause analyte deterioration. Samples are to be thawed only once.

Specimens and controls should be handled as if infectious using safe laboratory procedures such as those outlined in *Biosafety in Microbiological and Biomedical Laboratories* and in the CLSI Document M29-A. Thoroughly clean and disinfect all work surfaces with a freshly prepared solution of 0.5% sodium hypochlorite in deionized or distilled water.

## **5. PROCEDURES FOR MICROSCOPIC EXAMINATIONS; CRITERIA FOR REJECTION OF INADEQUATELY PREPARED SLIDES**

Not applicable for this procedure.

## **6. PREPARATION OF REAGENTS, CALIBRATORS (STANDARDS), CONTROLS, AND ALL OTHER MATERIALS; EQUIPMENT AND INSTRUMENTATION**

### **a. Instrumentation and Software**

VITROS 3600 Immunodiagnostic System

### **b. Required Materials Not Provided**

VITROS Immunodiagnostic Products Signal Reagent

VITROS Immunodiagnostic Products Universal Wash Reagent

VITROS Immunodiagnostic Products High Sample Diluent B

Quality control materials such as VITROS Immunodiagnostic Products Anti-HBs Controls

VITROS Immunodiagnostic Products Reagent Pack Storage Box (optional) with desiccant

**c. Materials Provided**

- VITROS Immunodiagnostic Products Anti-HBs Quantitative Reagent Pack
- VITROS Immunodiagnostic Products Anti-HBs Calibrators

**d. Reagents**

*Reagent Pack Contents*

1 reagent pack containing:

- 100 human HBsAg (ad and ay subtypes) coated wells
- 13.3 mL conjugate reagent: human HBsAg (ad and ay subtypes)-HRP conjugate in phosphate buffered saline with human plasma, protein stabilizers and antimicrobial agent (Kathon, 2% w/v)
- 6.2 mL assay reagent: EDTA phosphate buffered saline with antimicrobial agent (Kathon, 1%, w/v)

*Reagent Pack Handling*

- The reagent pack is supplied ready for use.
- The reagent pack contains homogeneous liquid reagents that do not require shaking or mixing prior to loading on the system.
- Handle the reagent pack with care. Avoid the following:
  - allowing condensation to form on the pack
  - causing reagents to foam
  - agitation of the pack

*Reagent Pack Storage and Preparation*

<b>Reagent</b>	<b>Storage Condition</b>	<b>Stability</b>
Unopened	Refrigerated 2–8 °C (36–46 °F)	expiration date
Opened	On system - System turned on	≤ 8 weeks
Opened	Refrigerated 2–8 °C (36–46 °F)	≤ 8 weeks

- The VITROS Anti-HBs Quantitative Reagent Pack is suitable for use until the expiration date on the carton when stored and handled as specified. Do not use beyond the expiration date.
- Do not freeze unopened reagent packs.

- Load reagent packs directly from refrigerated storage to minimize condensation.
- Store opened refrigerated reagent packs in a sealed reagent pack storage box that contains dry desiccant.

e. *Calibrators*

For use in the calibration of the VITROS ECi/ECiQ Immunodiagnostic Systems, the VITROS 3600 Immunodiagnostic System and the VITROS 5600 Integrated System for the quantitative *in vitro* determination of total antibody to hepatitis B surface antigen (anti-HBs) in human serum using the VITROS Immunodiagnostic Products Anti-HBs Quantitative Reagent Pack.

*Calibrator Contents*

- 1 set of VITROS Anti-HBs Calibrators 1, 2 and 3 (re-calcified human plasma with antimicrobial agent, 2.0 mL, Bronidox 1.0%); nominal values 0; 30 and 250 mIU/mL
- Lot calibration card
- Protocol card
- 24 calibrator bar code labels (8 for each calibrator)

*Calibrator Handling*

- Use only with reagent packs of the same lot number. Mix thoroughly by inversion and bring to 15–30 °C (59–86 °F) before use. Each pack contains sufficient for a minimum of 6 determinations of each calibrator.
- Handle calibrators in stoppered containers to avoid contamination and evaporation. To avoid evaporation, limit the amount of time calibrators are on the VITROS Immunodiagnostic and VITROS Integrated Systems. Refer to the operating instructions for your system. Return to 2–8 °C (36–46 °F) as soon as possible after use, or load only sufficient volume for a single determination.

*Calibrator Storage and Preparation*

<b>Calibrator</b>	<b>Storage Condition</b>	<b>Stability</b>
Unopened	Refrigerated 2–8 °C (36–46 °F)	expiration date
Opened	Refrigerated 2–8 °C (36–46 °F)	≤ 13 weeks
Opened	Frozen -20 °C (-4 °F)	≤ 13 weeks

- VITROS Anti-HBs Calibrators are supplied ready for use.
- The VITROS Anti-HBs Calibrators are suitable for use until the expiration date on the carton when stored and handled as specified. Do not use beyond the expiration date.
- Opened calibrators may be stored frozen (with no more than 1 freeze-thaw cycle).



The VITROS Anti-HBs test uses 80 µL of calibrator for each determination. The VITROS Anti-HBs Calibrators may be used directly on the VITROS Immunodiagnostic and VITROS Integrated Systems. Alternatively, transfer an aliquot of each calibrator into a sample container (taking account of the minimum fill volume of the container), which may be bar coded with the labels provided. For details on minimum fill volume of sample cups or containers, refer to the operating instructions for your system.

**f. Preparation of Quality Control Material**

VITROS Anti-HBs Controls are recommended for use with the VITROS Immunodiagnostic and VITROS Integrated Systems.

**7. CALIBRATION AND CALIBRATION VERIFICATION PROCEDURES**

**a. Calibration**

*Calibration Procedure*

- Calibration is Lot specific; reagent packs and calibrators are linked by lot number. Reagent packs from the same lot may use the same calibration.
- A Master Calibration (a dose response curve covering the full calibration range) is established for each new reagent lot. Concentrations for the linked lot of calibrators are determined from the Master Calibration.
- Ensure that the Master Calibration for each new reagent lot is available on your system.
- Process calibrators in the same manner as samples. Calibration need not be programmed if bar code labels are used; load the calibrators in any order, calibration will be initiated automatically.
- When the calibrators are processed the signal expected for each calibrator is compared against the actual signal obtained. The Master Calibration is then rescaled to reflect the differences between the actual and expected signals. The validity of this calibration curve is assessed against a range of quality parameters, and if acceptable, it is stored for use with any reagent pack of that lot.
- The quality of calibration cannot be completely described by a single parameter. The calibration report should be used in conjunction with acceptable control values to determine the validity of the calibration.
- Recalibration is required after a pre-determined calibration interval, or when a different reagent lot is loaded.
- Calibration results are assessed against a range of quality parameters. Failure to meet any of the defined quality parameter ranges will be coded in the calibration report. For actions to be taken following a failed calibration refer to the operating instructions for your system.

Refer to the operating instructions for your system for detailed instructions on the calibration process.

### *When to Calibrate*

- Calibrate when the reagent pack and calibrator lot changes.
- Calibrate every 28 days.
- After specified service procedures have been performed.
- If quality control results are consistently outside of your acceptable range.

For additional information on when to calibrate, refer to the operating instructions for your system.

### *Traceability of Calibration*

The calibration of the VITROS Anti-HBs Quantitative test is traceable to the World Health Organization (WHO) First International Reference Preparation for Antibody to HBsAg (1977).

### *Calibration Model*

A modified four-parameter logistic curve fit function is used to construct the Master Calibration. The calibration process rescales the Master Calibration to establish a valid stored curve for the VITROS Immunodiagnostic and VITROS Integrated Systems.

#### **b. Verification**

Not Applicable

## **8. PROCEDURE OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS; CALCULATIONS; INTERPRETATION OF RESULTS**

#### **a. Preliminaries**

- (1) The VITROS aHBs – Anti-HBs Reagent Pack is used for 100 tests. Reagent pack is supplied ready for use and its components cannot be interchanged within a manufacturer's lot or between lots.
- (2) Unopened reagent pack is stored refrigerated at 2-8 °C (36–46 °F); do not freeze.
- (3) Reagent pack is loaded on the instrument directly from refrigerated storage to minimize condensation
- (4) Prepare a run sheet listing controls and specimens in the order presented in the e-file.
- (5) Perform daily maintenance of the V3600 instrument according to user manual; verify the validity of the calibrators and if needed update. Run negative and positive controls.

b. Sample Preparation

- (1) Bring serum and control specimens from the refrigerators to the bench, mix each vial by inversion, and allow 20-30 minutes to reach ambient temperature (15-30°C [59–86 °F]) before use.

Spin down the specimens at 5000 RPM speed for 5 minutes using a swing-bucket centrifuge (Eppendorf Centrifuge 5804/Rotor A-4-44, or similar).

- (2) Inspect the cryovials for presence of yellow dot; specimen hemolysis, lipemia and/or turbidity; ensure that CDC local aliquot ID, CSID and CUID on the vial match the record accessioned by the STATT in ELIMS; verify the specimen temperature recorded in ELIMS upon accessioning and fill out the acceptability batch list.
- (3) Identify the reaction tray wells for each specimen or control.

c. Instrument Setup

- (1) Test procedure is performed as described in VITROS 3600 Operation and Maintenance document (CDC-012-00021) using the VITROS Anti-HBs Reagent Pack and associated controls and calibrator packs. Do not use expired reagents.

- (2) Enterprise Laboratory Information Management System (ELIMS):

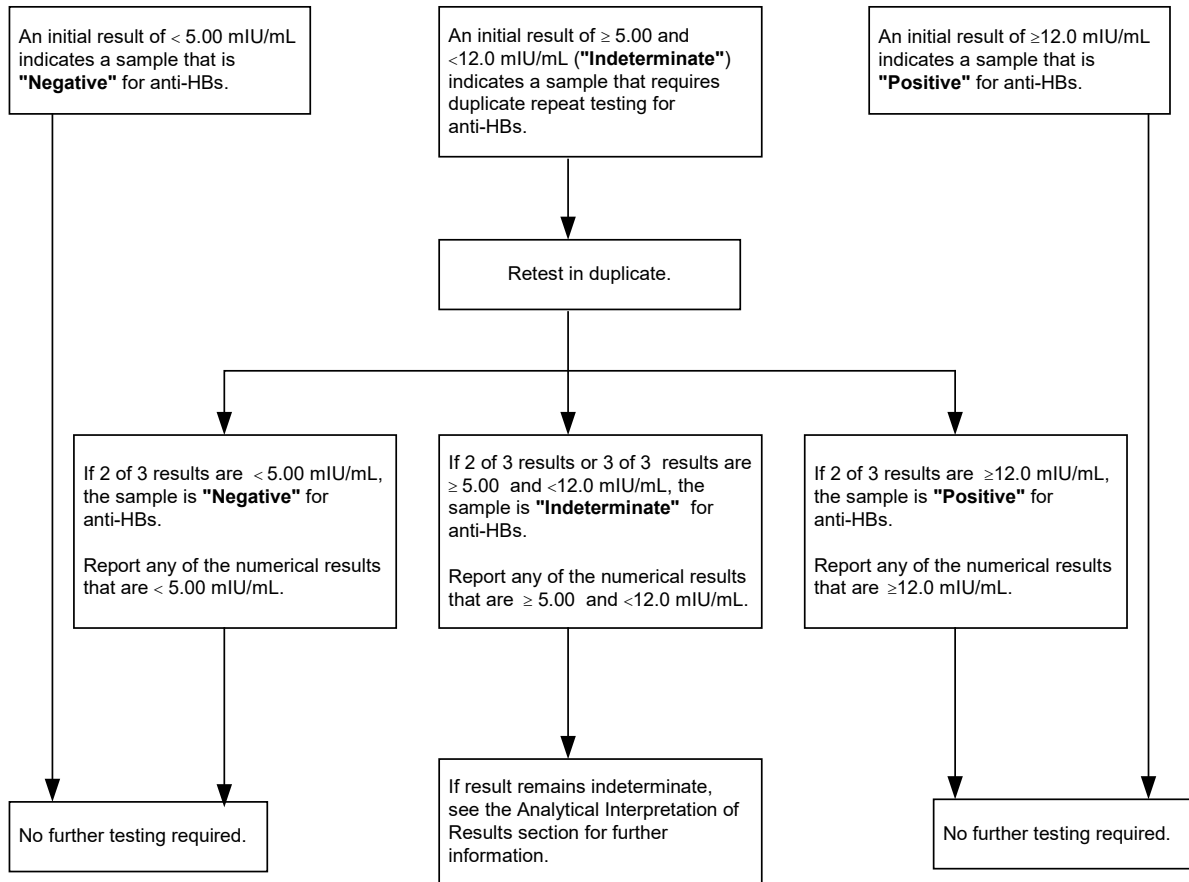
- a. The specimens arriving to CDC are accessioned by the Specimen Triage and Tracking Team (STATT) into ELIMS for Unit 90 under CLIA regulated practices, and then Unit 90 is notified.
- b. Testing Personnel within Unit 90 pick-up specimens within 24 hours of notice.
- c. DRT TP transports the specimens to DRT Pre-analytic testing facilities. Specimens are securely stored ensuring conditions described in the Office of the Associate Director for Laboratory Science and Safety (OADLSS) Biosafety Manual.
- d. Process specimens in ELIMS by following the Pre-Analytic Workflow of the ELIMS Job Aids for User Level 2 Data Manager.
- e. Fill out the VITROS Runsheet.
- f. Once the results are generated by the VITROS 3600, download the data into ELIMS according to the Post-Analytic Workflow of the ELIMS Job Aid for User Level 2 Data Manager.
- g. Once completed, notify the supervisor.

Check the inventory regularly to aid the management of reagents and ensure that sufficient VITROS Signal Reagent, VITROS Universal Wash Reagent and calibrated reagent lots are available for the work planned. When performing panels of tests on a single sample, ensure that the sample volume is sufficient for the tests ordered.

For detailed information refer to the operating instructions for your system.

### Testing Algorithm

Final results should be manually interpreted using the algorithm below.



#### d. Reporting results

Results are automatically calculated by the VITROS Immunodiagnostic and VITROS Integrated Systems.

##### *Reporting Units and Unit Conversion*

Analyte results are quoted in units of mIU/mL. To configure the units, refer to the operating instructions for your system.

#### e. Interpretation of Results

##### Analytical Interpretation

- A result of <4.23 mIU/mL indicates that the result is below the test's Limit of Detection (LoD). The sample is "Negative" for anti-HBs and the individual is not immune to HBV infection.

- A result of  $\geq 4.23$  mIU/mL and  $< 5.00$  mIU/mL indicates with 95% confidence that a sample contains anti-HBs, but not at levels consistent with protective immunity against HBV infection.
- A result of  $\geq 12.0$  mIU/mL indicates that a sample is “Positive” for anti-HBs. This result is consistent with levels of anti-HBs at  $> 10$  mIU/mL, which indicates that anti-HBs has been detected at levels consistent with protective immunity against HBV infection.
- A specimen with a result of  $\geq 5.00$  mIU/mL and  $< 12.0$  mIU/mL indicates that a sample is “Indeterminate” for anti-HBs and should be retested in duplicate. If both repeats are  $< 5.00$  mIU/mL, the specimen is negative for anti-HBs. If both repeats are  $\geq 12.0$  mIU/mL, the specimen is positive for anti-HBs. The result is indeterminate if one or both replicate results are  $\geq 5.00$  mIU/mL and  $< 12.0$  mIU/mL. If a result remains indeterminate, the immune status of the individual should be further assessed by considering other factors, such as clinical status, follow-up testing, associated risk factors, and the use of additional diagnostic information.
- Results obtained with the VITROS Anti-HBs Quantitative test may not be used interchangeably with values obtained with different manufacturers’ test methods.

#### Clinical Interpretation

<b>VITROS Anti-HBs Test Result</b>	<b>Result Text</b>	<b>Clinical Interpretation of Immune Status</b>
$< 5.00$ mIU/mL	Negative	Patient is considered to be not immune to infection with HBV.
$\geq 5.00$ mIU/mL and $< 12.0$ mIU/mL	Indeterminate	Unable to determine if anti-HBs are present at levels consistent with immunity. Patient's immune status should be further assessed by considering other clinical information or retesting another specimen drawn at a later time.
$\geq 12.0$ mIU/mL	Positive	Anti-HBs detected at $> 10$ mIU/mL. Patient is considered to be immune to infection with HBV. It has not been determined what the clinical significance is for values greater than $> 12$ mIU/mL, other than the individual is considered to be immune to HBV infection.

#### f. Recording of Data

Results are automatically calculated by the VITROS Immunodiagnostic and VITROS Integrated Systems. Data stored by the VITROS Immunodiagnostic and VITROS Integrated Systems are transferred to the DMS (through December 31, 2019) or ELIMS (since January 1, 2020) for review.

g. Calculations

Not Applicable

## 9. REPORTABLE RANGE OF RESULTS

Final results are expressed qualitatively as positive or negative for the presence of anti-HBs antibody in the sample. No quantitative results are reported for NHANES.

System	Measuring (Reportable) Range
ECi/ECiQ, 3600	4.23*–1000 mIU/mL
* Lower limit of measuring range is based on the Limit of Detection. The lowest result reported by the system software is 0 mIU/mL. Values between 0 and 4.23 mIU/mL should be interpreted as not having detectable anti-HBs.	

### ***Test Limit of Detection***

The lowest amount of anti-HBs that can be detected with the VITROS Anti-HBs Quantitative test was determined in accordance with NCCLS EP17. Based upon 274 positive determinations, the Limit of Detection (LoD) is 4.23 mIU/mL of anti-HBs, with a 95% probability of obtaining a measurable response at that level. A Limit of Blank (LoB) of 3.08 mIU/mL was used.

## 10. QUALITY CONTROL (QC) PROCEDURES

### **Quality Control Material Selection**

Quality control is measured using manufacturer provided positive and negative controls. Appropriate quality control value ranges must be established on the respective VITROS 3600 analyzer for quality control materials, using the guidance to the acceptable ranges from the quality controls booklet provided by the manufacturer for each control.

VITROS Anti-HBs Negative Control should generate Negative results with value in the acceptable ranges.

VITROS Anti-HBs Positive Control has 2 levels: low and mid-positive control, and both should generate Positive results with value in the acceptable ranges.

***Appropriate quality control value ranges must be established for all quality control materials used with the VITROS Anti-HBs test. Only runs that pass with controls within the designated range are reported from the analyzer.***

## Quality Control Procedure Recommendations

Quality Control is measured using manufacturer provided positive and negative controls every day before testing. Testing of specimens can be started only after control pass.

### *Positive Controls*

<b>Control</b>	<b>Frequency (every run, every extraction, etc.)</b>	<b>Expected Value</b>
VITROS Anti-HBs Positive Control	After calibration; At least once each day that the test is being performed; After specified service procedure or maintenance to critical parts or subsystems that might influence performance of the test.	Positive 1
VITROS Anti-HBs Positive Control	After calibration; At least once each day that the test is being performed; After specified service procedure or maintenance to critical parts or subsystems that might influence performance of the test.	Positive 2

### *Negative Controls*

<b>Control</b>	<b>Frequency (every run, every extraction, etc.)</b>	<b>Expected Value</b>
VITROS Anti-HBs Negative Control	After calibration; At least once each day that the test is being performed; After specified service procedure or maintenance to critical parts or subsystems that might influence performance of the test.	Negative

### **Additional Controls**

<b>Control</b>	<b>Frequency (every run, every extraction, etc.)</b>	<b>Expected Value</b>
None	Not applicable	Not applicable

### **Quality Control Procedures**

Controls that fall outside the acceptable range should result in an immediate retest.

If a second failure results, refer to VITROS 3600 Operation and Maintenance Standard Operating Procedure.

If a third failure results, call Ortho CDC VITROS technical support line to troubleshoot either by phone, or schedule field service visit.

If failure occurs 3 times, TP submits a nonconforming event report describing the sequence of occurrences.

**NOTE:** If controls fail or are outside of acceptable range, no results can be generated from the analyzer until controls fall within range.

### **Quality Control Material Preparation and Storage**

Refer to the manufacturer's product literature for preparation, storage, and stability information.

## **11. REMEDIAL ACTION IF CALIBRATION OR QC SYSTEMS FAIL TO MEET ACCEPTABLE CRITERIA**

The entire run is considered to be invalid if one or both controls are not within specified limits. If **Negative Control, or Positive Control** is invalid then the entire run is invalid, repeat the entire run including control and sample preparation.

## **12. LIMITATIONS OF METHOD; INTERFERING SUBSTANCES AND CONDITIONS**

### **Known Interferences**

The specificity of the VITROS Anti-HBs Quantitative test was evaluated by testing 209 samples from 16 potentially cross-reacting sub-groups. All the samples were previously classified as anti-HBs negative in other commercially available tests. Samples found to be  $\geq 10.0$  mIU/mL by the VITROS Anti-HBs Quantitative test were retested in duplicate. Samples tested negative for anti-HBs, were positive for hepatitis A virus infection, hepatitis E virus infection, non-viral liver disease, rheumatoid arthritis, systemic lupus erythematosus, cytomegalovirus, Epstein-Barr virus, herpes simplex virus, parvovirus B19 infection, rubella, syphilis, toxoplasmosis, and human immunodeficiency viruses 1 and 2.



## Other Limitations

- Test performance characteristics have not been established when the VITROS Anti-HBs Quantitative test is used in conjunction with other manufacturer's tests for specific HBV serological markers. Users are responsible for establishing their own performance characteristics.
- Test performance characteristics have not been established for the use of the VITROS Anti-HBs Quantitative test as an aid in determining susceptibility to HBV infection prior to or following vaccination in infants, children, or adolescents.
- The results from this or any other diagnostic test should be used and interpreted only in the context of the overall clinical picture.
- This test does not differentiate between a vaccine induced immune response and an immune response induced by infection with HBV. To determine if the anti-HBs response is due to vaccine or HBV infection, a total anti-HBc test may be performed.
- Individuals that have received blood component therapy, e.g., whole blood, plasma, immune globulin administration, during the previous 3–6 months may have a false reactive anti-HBs result due to passive transfer of anti-HBs.
- Certain drugs and clinical conditions are known to alter anti-HBs concentrations *in vivo*. For additional information, refer to one of the published summaries.
- Results from immune-suppressed individuals should be interpreted with caution.
- Individuals possessing IgM anti-rubella virus may have falsely high results with the VITROS Anti-HBs Quantitative test.
- Test performance characteristics have not been established for any other specimen matrix than serum.
- The prevalence of the analyte will affect the test's predictive value.
- Turbidity may affect test results.

## Substances that do not Interfere

The VITROS Anti-HBs test was evaluated for interference consistent with CLSI document EP7. The VITROS Anti-HBs test was evaluated for interference by testing the following substances listed in section 11.1.5. Testing was performed using matched pairs of negative donor serum and negative donor serum spiked with anti-HBs to a concentration near 10 mIU/mL. None of the compounds at the levels tested were found to interfere with the clinical interpretation of the test.

The following compounds were tested at the levels listed:

- a) Bilirubin, 0.35 mmol/L
- b) Hemoglobin, 0.31 mmol/L
- c) Triolein, 33.9 mmol/L

### **13. REFERENCE RANGES (NORMAL VALUES)**

A normal human serum should be negative for hepatitis B surface antibodies unless the individual has been vaccinated against hepatitis B.

### **14. CRITICAL CALL RESULTS ("PANIC VALUES")**

Not applicable.

### **15. SPECIMEN STORAGE AND HANDLING DURING TESTING**

Specimens may remain at 20-25 °C (68–77 °F) during preparation and testing only.

### **16. ALTERNATIVE METHODS FOR PERFORMING TEST OR STORING SPECIMENS IF TEST SYSTEM FAILS**

Other FDA-licensed tests for Hepatitis B surface antibody may be substituted but must be accompanied by validation data to show substantial equivalence with this assay. Substitution of test methods may not be done without approval from the NCHS.

Alternate storage is not recommended. In case of system failure, samples should be refrigerated at 4-8°C (39–46 °F) for no more than 48 hours. For longer periods, the specimens should be stored at - 20°C (-4 °F) until the system is functioning properly.

### **17. TEST RESULT REPORTING SYSTEM; PROTOCOL FOR REPORTING CRITICAL CALLS (IF APPLICABLE)**

Not applicable.

### **18. TRANSFER OR REFERRAL OF SPECIMENS; PROCEDURES FOR SPECIMEN ACCOUNTABILITY AND TRACKING**

Test results are documented through ELIMS (Section 3) to track specimens.

Specimens in long-term storage are arranged by study group in designated low-temperature freezers (-50C or below). The storage location of each sample is listed in the NHANES Box Maps on the CLIA Suite Team Files Exchange, organized by box number and freezer rack (e.g., NH5\_05 Box MAP\_Rack 25). Each Box map includes position of specimen in the box, NH5\_ID, CDC-un-id, Container and box number. For NHANES, residual specimens are stored frozen at -50°C or below and returned to the NCHS specimen bank after testing for each cycle has been completed.

## **19. SUMMARY STATISTICS AND QC GRAPHS**

QC numeric data are monitored over time using Quality Control Charts to detect trends or shifts in performance through regular, planned reviews by supervisors, i.e., monthly, or quarterly. Reviews are used to identify opportunities for improvements.

Evaluation of the Quality Control of Test Results on VITROS Immunodiagnostic System is conducted according to the internal laboratory Standard Operating Procedure document, available to the laboratory personnel.

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