

HEPATITIS A ANTIBODY (Anti HAV), IgM, SERUM	Index	<0.80
(CMIA)		

Interpretation

RESULT (INDEX)	REMARKS
<0.80	Non Reactive
0.80-1.20	Borderline Reactive
>1.20	Reactive

Note: 1. Patients exhibiting Borderline Reactivity should be monitored at weekly intervals. This will distinguish rising Anti HAV- IgM levels associated with Acute Hepatitis A infection from decreasing or unchanging levels associated with recovery.

2. Rheumatoid factor can give rise to false positive results

3. Reactive results suggest recent HAV infection

4. False negative / positive results are observed in patients receiving mouse monoclonal antibodies for diagnosis or therapy.

5. For heparinized patients, draw specimen prior to heparin therapy as presence of fibrin leads to erroneous results.

Comments

Hepatitis A Virus (HAV) is a RNA virus of Picornavirus family transmitted by fecal- oral route. Infection with HAV is self limiting though 5-10% cases may show a secondary rise in enzymes. Since symptomatic Hepatitis A virus infections are clinically indistinguishable from Hepatitis B or C virus, serological testing is an extremely important tool to achieve proper diagnosis. During the acute phase of HAV infection, IgM appears in patient’s serum in nearly all cases at the onset of symptoms, peaks within the first month of illness and persists for 3-6 months. It declines to undetectable levels within 12 months. The most effective diagnostic determination of HAV acute infection is the detection of Anti HAV- IgM.