Recommended Testing Sequence for Identifying Current Hepatitis C Virus (HCV) Infection

HCV antibody

- Reactive
  - HCV RNA
    - Detected
      - Current HCV infection
      - Link to care
    - Not Detected
      - No current HCV infection
      - Additional testing as appropriate†
  - Nonreactive
    - No HCV antibody detected
    - STOP*

* For persons who might have been exposed to HCV within the past 6 months, testing for HCV RNA or follow-up testing for HCV antibody is recommended. For persons who are immunocompromised, testing for HCV RNA can be considered.

† To differentiate past, resolved HCV infection from biologic false positivity for HCV antibody, testing with another HCV antibody assay can be considered. Repeat HCV RNA testing if the person tested is suspected to have had HCV exposure within the past 6 months or has clinical evidence of HCV disease, or if there is concern regarding the handling or storage of the test specimen.