



NC DEPARTMENT OF
**HEALTH AND
HUMAN SERVICES**
Division of Public Health

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SCOTT M. SHONE, PhD, HCLD (ABB) • Laboratory Director, State
Laboratory of Public Health

Memo

To: Submitters to the North Carolina State Laboratory of Public Health

From: Scott M. Shone, PhD, HCLD (ABB), Director, State Laboratory of Public Health

Date: July 28, 2026

Re: Pediatric Hepatitis Testing

On August 3, 2026, the North Carolina State Laboratory of Public Health (NCSLPH) will initiate in-house testing of Hepatitis C Virus (HCV) for pediatric patients (24 months to <18 years of age). This test will replace the current send-out test. Testing for HCV will be performed in accordance with the [CDC algorithm](#). Small differences in test results reports may be noticed with this change. Testing for HCV in patients <24 months of age is not available through the NCSLPH.

NCSLPH has also ceased testing of infants <24 months of age for Hepatitis B total core antibodies (anti-HBc). Maternal antibodies to HBc may persist for up to 24 months; therefore, this testing [is not recommended for infants <24 months old](#). The NCSLPH Hepatitis B Screen Panel now aligns with the CDC recommendations for this patient population. Please see the [NCSLPH Hepatitis A and B Serology Interpretation Chart](#) for assistance with results interpretation.

All hepatitis testing can be ordered through the [Lab Web Portal \(LWP\)](#) for users with access to the system. To gain access to LWP, please contact slph.ector@dhhs.nc.gov. Additional information about submission criteria and shipping can be found in the [NCSLPH SCOPE Guide to Laboratory Services](#).

For questions, please contact the NCSLPH Virology/Serology Unit at 919-733-7367.

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