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Table 1: Interpretation of HBV Screening Test Results

Table 2: Serologic and Virologic Responses to HBV Infection

Table 1: Interpretation of HBV Screening Test Results				
HBsAg	Anti-HBs	Anti-HBc		Interpretations
		IgG	IgM	
Negative	Negative	Negative	Negative	Susceptible to HBV infection
Negative	Positive	Negative	Negative	Immune due to HBV vaccination
Negative	Positive	Positive	Negative	Immune due to natural HBV infection
Positive	Negative	Positive	Positive	Acute HBV infection
Positive	Negative	Positive	Negative/Positive	Chronic HBV infection
Negative	Negative	Positive	Negative/Positive	Isolated anti-HBc positivity. Possible interpretations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Resolved HBV infection with waning anti-HBs titers False-positive result Occult HBV infection Resolving acute HBV infection

Abbreviations: anti-HBc, hepatitis B core antibody; anti-HBs, hepatitis B surface antibody; HBsAg, hepatitis B surface antigen; HBV, hepatitis B virus; IgG, immunoglobulin G; IgM, immunoglobulin M.

Table 2: Serologic and Virologic Responses to HBV Infection							
Stage of Infection	HBsAg	Anti-HBs	Anti-HBc IgG	Anti-HBc IgM	HBeAg	Anti-HBe	HBV DNA Level
Incubation	+	-	-	-	+ or -	-	Low
Acute HBV infection	+	-	+	+	+	-	High
HBs-negative acute HBV	-	-	+	+	+ or -	-	High
Inactive HBsAg carrier	+	-	+++	+ or -	-	+	Low
Precore mutant [a]	+	-	+ or -	+ or -	-	+	High
Occult infection	-	-	+	+ or -	-	-	High or low
Chronic HBV infection	+	-	+++	+ or -	+ or -	-	High or low

Abbreviations: anti-HBc, hepatitis B core antibody (IgG or IgM); anti-HBe, antibody to HBeAg; anti-HBs, hepatitis B surface antibody; HBeAg, hepatitis B e antigen; HBsAg, hepatitis B surface antigen; HBV, hepatitis B virus; IgG, immunoglobulin G; IgM, immunoglobulin M.

Note:
a. For more information, see [Medscape: Precore Mutant Chronic Hepatitis B—Approach to Management](#).