

Agent Summary (CDC [BMBL5](#)) – Hepatitis C Viruses (HCV)

1. Precaution

Hepatitis B viruses are naturally acquired from a carrier during blood transfusion, vaccination, tattooing, or body piercing with inadequately sterilized instruments. Non-parenteral routes, such as domestic contact and unprotected (heterosexual and homosexual) intercourse, are also major modes of transmission.

Hepatitis C virus infection can occur in the laboratory situation as well. The prevalence of antibody to hepatitis C (anti-HCV) is slightly higher in medical care workers than in the general population. Epidemiologic evidence indicates that HCV is spread predominantly by the parenteral route.

HCV has been detected primarily in blood and serum, less frequently in saliva and rarely or not at all in urine or semen. It appears to be relatively unstable to storage at room temperature and repeated freezing and thawing.

2. PPE: follow SOP #3.0 donning and doffing procedure
3. Lab area : _____
4. Animal holding area : _____
5. Animal procedure area: _____