

# New Test Announcement



## **Hepatitis C RIBA Available for Confirmatory Testing Effective 6/24/11**

Hepatitis C RIBA testing is now available to be used for confirming positive Hepatitis C antibody results.

To confirm Reactive Hepatitis C Antibody samples that have an S/CO (signal to cutoff) ratio between 1.0 and 10.9, St. Luke's Laboratory will reflexively order **Hepatitis C RIBA** instead of Hepatitis C RNA-PCR Qualitative.

Reactive Hepatitis C Antibody samples with a negative RIBA result indicate a false reactive screen.

Samples that are reactive for Hepatitis C Antibody and have an S/CO ratio  $\geq 11.0$  or a positive RIBA indicate that the patient has either active or resolved Hepatitis C and must be evaluated for active infection.

**Hepatitis C RNA-PCR, Qualitative** testing should be used to determine if patients have active Hepatitis C. Please call St. Luke's Laboratory at 249-5200 if PCR testing is indicated.

**If you have questions, please contact K. Baer, M.D. (218)249-5208, Chemistry Laboratory Medical Director or Sue Bachinski, MT(ASCP) (218) 249-2445 Laboratory Outreach Manager.**