Overview

Useful For
Investigation of patients with possible Wilson disease

Testing Algorithm
For information see Wilson Disease Testing Algorithm.

Special Instructions

• Wilson Disease Testing Algorithm

Method Name
Nephelometric Assay

NY State Available
Yes

Specimen

Specimen Type
Serum

Specimen Required

Patient Preparation: Patient should be fasting: 4 hours preferred, nonfasting acceptable

Collection Container/Tube:
Preferred: Serum gel
Acceptable: Red top

Submission Container/Tube: Plastic vial

Specimen Volume: 1 mL

Collection Instructions: Centrifuge and aliquot serum into plastic vial.

Forms
If not ordering electronically, complete, print, and send 1 of the following forms with the specimen:

- Benign Hematology Test Request (T755)
- General Request (T239)
- Gastroenterology and Hepatology Client Test Request (T728)

Specimen Minimum Volume
0.5 mL

Reject Due To
Gross hemolysis  Reject
Gross lipemia  Reject
Gross icterus  Reject

### Specimen Stability Information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Specimen Type</th>
<th>Temperature</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Special Container</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Serum</td>
<td>Refrigerated (preferred)</td>
<td>7 days</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Frozen</td>
<td>30 days</td>
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### Clinical & Interpretive

#### Clinical Information

Ceruloplasmin is a positive acute-phase reactant and a copper-binding protein that accounts for over 95% of serum copper in normal adults. Ceruloplasmin is measured primarily to assist with a diagnosis of Wilson disease. Other indications include Menkes disease, dietary copper insufficiency, and risk of cardiovascular disease.

Wilson disease is a rare inherited disorder of copper transport that results in low serum copper and ceruloplasmin and accumulation of copper in various tissues. The pathological accumulation of copper in the liver, brain, cornea, and kidney causes cirrhosis, neuropsychiatric symptoms, Kayser-Fleischer rings, and hematuria/proteinuria, respectively. See [Wilson Disease Testing Algorithm](#) for appropriate use of clinical findings, serum biomarkers, genetic tests, and tissue biopsies when working up suspected cases.

Menkes disease is an X-linked disorder in which dietary copper is absorbed from the gastrointestinal tract but cannot be transported, so copper is not available to the liver for incorporation into ceruloplasmin.

Dietary ceruloplasmin deficiency may be due to inadequate dietary copper intake, long-term parenteral nutrition without copper supplementation, malabsorption, penicillamine therapy, or a combination of these.

#### Reference Values

**Males:**
- 0-8 weeks: 7.4-23.7 mg/dL
- 9 weeks-5 months: 13.5-32.9 mg/dL
- 6-11 months: 13.7-38.9 mg/dL
- 12 months-7 years: 21.7-43.3 mg/dL
- 8-13 years: 20.5-40.2 mg/dL
- 14-17 years: 17.0-34.8 mg/dL
- > or =18 years: 19.0-31.0 mg/dL

**Females:**
- 0-8 weeks: 7.4-23.7 mg/dL
- 9 weeks-5 months: 13.5-32.9 mg/dL
- 6-11 months: 13.7-38.9 mg/dL
12 months-7 years: 21.7-43.3 mg/dL  
8-13 years: 20.5-40.2 mg/dL  
14-17 years: 20.8-43.2 mg/dL  
> or =18 years: 20.0-51.0 mg/dL

**Interpretation**

Low concentrations of ceruloplasmin are consistent with Wilson disease and warrant further investigation according to the recommended algorithm; see Wilson Disease Testing Algorithm.

Ceruloplasmin is a positive acute-phase reactant. Increases in serum ceruloplasmin have been reported during pregnancy, in women taking oral contraceptives, in hepatitis, pneumonia, tuberculosis, rheumatoid arthritis, myocardial infarction, various forms of anemia, and many obscure neurological disorders.

**Cautions**

Ceruloplasmin is a positive acute-phase reactant; therefore, levels are elevated in cases of inflammation (as in chronic hepatitis or active infection). Consequently, ceruloplasmin levels are not always extremely low in patients with Wilson disease.

Values vary considerably from patient to patient and may be in the normal range in some patients with Wilson disease (indicating a different primary defect).

Birth control pills and pregnancy increase ceruloplasmin levels.

**Clinical Reference**


**Performance**

**Method Description**

Human ceruloplasmin forms a precipitate with a specific antiserum, which is then measured nephelometrically.(Package insert: Ceruloplasmin. Siemens; 08/2018)

**PDF Report**

No
Test Definition: CERS
Ceruloplasmin, Serum

Day(s) Performed
Monday through Sunday

Report Available
1 to 7 days

Specimen Retention Time
7 days

Performing Laboratory Location
Rochester

Fees & Codes

Fees
- Authorized users can sign in to Test Prices for detailed fee information.
- Clients without access to Test Prices can contact Customer Service 24 hours a day, seven days a week.
- Prospective clients should contact their account representative. For assistance, contact Customer Service.

Test Classification
This test has been cleared, approved, or is exempt by the US Food and Drug Administration and is used per manufacturer's instructions. Performance characteristics were verified by Mayo Clinic in a manner consistent with CLIA requirements.

CPT Code Information
82390

LOINC® Information

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