

**Reporting Title:** Lithium, S  
**Performing Location:** Mayo Clinic Laboratories - Rochester Main Campus

**Specimen Requirements:**  
**Collection Container/Tube:**  
**Preferred:** Serum gel  
**Acceptable:** Red top  
**Submission Container/Tube:** Plastic vial  
**Specimen Volume:** 0.5 mL  
**Collection Instructions:**

- 1. Draw blood 8 to 12 hours after last dose (trough specimen).
  - 2. Serum gel tubes should be centrifuged within 2 hours of collection.
  - 3. Red-top tubes should be centrifuged, and the serum aliquoted into a plastic vial within 2 hours of collection.
- Additional Information:** Peak serum concentrations do not correlate with symptoms.

**Forms:**  
If not ordering electronically, complete, print, and send a [Therapeutics Test Request](#) (T831) with the specimen.

Specimen Type	Temperature	Time	Special Container
Serum	Refrigerated (preferred)	7 days	
	Ambient	72 hours	
	Frozen	28 days	

**Result Codes:**

Result ID	Reporting Name	Type	Unit	LOINC®
LITH	Lithium, S	Numeric	mmol/L	14334-7

LOINC® and CPT codes are provided by the performing laboratory.

**Supplemental Report:**  
No

**CPT Code Information:**  
80178

**Reference Values:**  
Therapeutic: 0.5-1.2 mmol/L (trough concentration)  
Critical value: >1.6 mmol/L  
There is no relationship between peak concentration and degree of intoxication.