



Test Definition: CEA

Carcinoembryonic Antigen (CEA), Serum

Reporting Title: Carcinoembryonic Ag (CEA), S

Performing Location: Mayo Clinic Jacksonville Clinical Lab

Specimen Requirements:

Patient Preparation: For 12 hours before specimen collection, patient **should not** take multivitamins or dietary supplements (eg, hair, skin, and nail supplements) containing biotin (vitamin B7).

Supplies: Sarstedt Aliquot Tube, 5 mL (T914)

Container/Tube:

Preferred: Serum gel

Acceptable: Red top

Submission Container/Tube: Plastic vial

Specimen Volume: 0.6 mL Serum

Collection Instructions:

1. Within 2 hours of collection, centrifuge the specimen.
2. For serum gel tubes, serum may sit on gel refrigerated but must be aliquoted within 7 days.
3. For red top tubes, aliquot serum into a plastic vial within 2 hours of collection.

Forms:

If not ordering electronically, complete, print, and send an [Oncology Test Request](#) (T729) with the specimen.

Specimen Type	Temperature	Time	Special Container
Serum	Refrigerated (preferred)	7 days	
	Frozen	90 days	

Result Codes:

Result ID	Reporting Name	Type	Unit	LOINC®
CEA	Carcinoembryonic Ag (CEA), S	Numeric	ng/mL	83085-1

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

Supplemental Report:

No

CPT Code Information:

82378

Reference Values:

Nonsmokers: < or =3.0 ng/mL

Some smokers may have elevated CEA, usually <5.0 ng/mL.

Serum markers are not specific for malignancy, and values may vary by method.