



Test Definition: AFP

Alpha-Fetoprotein (AFP) Tumor Marker, Serum

Reporting Title: Alpha-Fetoprotein, Tumor Marker, S

Performing Location: Mayo Clinic Laboratories - Rochester Superior Drive

Ordering Guidance:

This test is used as a tumor marker and is **not intended for** the detection of neural tube defects. For testing amniotic fluid specimens, order AFPA / Alpha-Fetoprotein, Amniotic Fluid.

Specimen Requirements:

Collection Container/Tube:

Preferred: Serum gel

Acceptable: Red top

Submission Container/Tube: Plastic vial

Specimen Volume: 0.6 mL

Collection Instructions: Centrifuge and aliquot serum into a plastic vial.

Forms:

If not ordering electronically, complete, print, and send [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®
AFP	Alpha-Fetoprotein, Tumor Marker, S	Numeric	ng/mL	53962-7

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

Supplemental Report:

No

CPT Code Information:

82105

Reference Values:

<8.4 ng/mL

Reference values are for nonpregnant subjects only; fetal production of alpha-fetoprotein elevates values in pregnant women.

Range for newborns is not available, but concentrations over 100,000 ng/mL have been reported in normal newborns, and the values rapidly decline in the first 6 months of life.(Wu JT, Book L, Sudar K. Serum alpha fetoprotein (AFP) levels in normal infants. *Pediatr Res.* 1981;15(1):50-52) For additional interpretive information, see [Alpha-Fetoprotein \(AFP\)](#).

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