



Test Definition: SER

Serotonin, Serum

Reporting Title: Serotonin, S

Performing Location: Mayo Clinic Laboratories - Rochester Superior Drive

Additional Testing Requirements:

First-line testing for the diagnosis of carcinoid tumors with symptoms suggestive of carcinoid syndrome consists of urinary 5-HIAA (HIAA / 5-Hydroxyindoleacetic Acid, 24 Hour, Urine), and serum chromogranin A (CGAK / Chromogranin A, Serum). Serotonin in whole blood (SERWB / Serotonin, Blood), serum (SER / Serotonin, Serum), and urine (SERU / Serotonin, 24 Hour, Urine) are useful in conjunction with these first-line tests.

Specimen Requirements:

Patient Preparation: Patient **should not** take medications that may elevate serotonin levels, including lithium, monoamine oxidase inhibitors, methyl dopa, morphine, and reserpine, or selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors (SSRI, eg, PROZAC) which can lead to depletion of platelet serotonin levels and result in false-negative serotonin results for a minimum of 72 hours before specimen collection. Some drugs with longer half-lives (i.e. fluoxetine) can require months after discontinuation for serotonin levels to return to baseline.

Supplies: Sarstedt Aliquot Tube, 5 mL (T914)

Collection Container/Tube:

Preferred: Red top

Acceptable: Serum gel

Submission Container/Tube: Plastic vial

Specimen Volume: 2.5 mL

Collection Instructions: Centrifuge as soon as blood has clotted and aliquot serum into a plastic vial.

Specimen Type	Temperature	Time	Special Container
Serum	Refrigerated (preferred)	21 days	
	Ambient	4 days	
	Frozen	90 days	

Result Codes:

Result ID	Reporting Name	Type	Unit	LOINC®
84395	Serotonin, S	Numeric	ng/mL	27057-9

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

Supplemental Report:

No

CPT Code Information:

84260

Reference Values:

< or =230 ng/mL