

Reporting Title: Homovanillic Acid (HVA), 24 Hr, U

Performing Location: Rochester

Necessary Information:

1. Patient's age is required.
2. Collection duration (in hours) and urine volume (in milliliters) are required.
3. All patients receiving L-dopa should be identified to the laboratory when this test is ordered.
4. Bactrim may interfere with detection of the analyte. All patients taking Bactrim should be identified to the laboratory when this test is ordered.

Specimen Requirements:

Patient Preparation: Administration of L-dopa may falsely increase homovanillic acid results. For 24 hours prior to and during specimen collection, the patient should **not** take L-dopa.

Supplies: Urine Tubes, 10 mL (T068)

Container/Tube: Plastic, 10-mL urine tube

Specimen Volume: 5 mL

Collection Instructions:

1. Add 25 mL of 50% acetic acid as preservative at start of collection. Use 15 mL of 50% acetic acid for children younger than 5 years. If specimen is refrigerated during collection, preservative may be added up to 12 hours after collection. This preservative is intended to achieve a pH of between approximately 1 and 5.
2. Collect a 24-hour urine specimen.
3. If necessary, adjust urine pH to a level between 1 and 5 by adding 50% acetic acid or hydrochloric acid dropwise and checking the pH.

Additional Information:

1. The sensitivity of this test is greater on a 24-hour specimen than on a random specimen.
2. See [Urine Preservatives-Collection and Transportation for 24-Hour Urine Specimens](#) for multiple collections.

Forms:

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

Urine Preservative Collection Options:

Note: For preservative or application of temperature controls timing, see Specimen Required.

Ambient (no additive)	No
Refrigerate (no additive)	No
Frozen (no additive)	No
50% Acetic Acid	Preferred
Boric Acid	No
Diazolidinyl Urea	No
6M Hydrochloric Acid	OK
6M Nitric Acid	OK
Sodium Carbonate	No
Toluene	No

Specimen Type	Temperature	Time	Special Container
Urine	Refrigerated (preferred)	28 days	

	Frozen	180 days	
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Ask at Order Entry (AOE) Questions:

Test ID	Question ID	Description	Type	Reportable
HVA	TM39	Collection Duration	Plain Text	Yes
HVA	VL37	Urine Volume	Plain Text	Yes

Result Codes:

Result ID	Reporting Name	Type	Unit	LOINC®
3572	Homovanillic Acid, Adult (>14 yr)	Alphanumeric	mg/24 h	2436-4
3573	Homovanillic Acid, Child (<15 yr)	Alphanumeric	mg/g Cr	13760-4
TM39	Collection Duration	Alphanumeric		13362-9
VL37	Urine Volume	Alphanumeric		3167-4

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

Supplemental Report:

No

CPT Code Information:

83150

Reference Values:

- <1 year: <35.0 mg/g creatinine
- 1 year: <30.0 mg/g creatinine
- 2-4 years: <25.0 mg/g creatinine
- 5-9 years: <15.0 mg/g creatinine
- 10-14 years: <9.0 mg/g creatinine
- > or =15 years (adults): <8.0 mg/24 hours