Overview

Useful For
May aid in the distinction between a transudative and an exudative body fluid, when used in conjunction with other testing including serum bilirubin analysis, body fluid; serum protein ratio, body fluids; serum lactate dehydrogenase ratio, and serum lactate dehydrogenase

Method Name
Photometric, Diazonium Salt

NY State Available
Yes

Specimen

Specimen Type
Body Fluid

Shipping Instructions
Ship specimen in amber vial to protect from light.

Necessary Information
Indicate specimen source.

Specimen Required

Supplies: Amber Frosted Tube, 5 mL (T192)

Collection Container/Tube: Body fluid container

Submission Container/Tube: Opaque, amber vial (T192)

Specimen Volume: 1mL

Collection Instructions:
1. Centrifuge, separate supernatant, and send both supernatant and sediment.
2. Label specimens as sediment and supernatant.

Specimen Minimum Volume
0.5 mL

Reject Due To

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Mild OK; Gross OK</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hemolysis</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lipemia</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Icterus</td>
<td>Mild OK; Gross OK</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>NA</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
**Specimen Stability Information**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Specimen Type</th>
<th>Temperature</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Special Container</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Body Fluid</td>
<td>Frozen (preferred)</td>
<td>70 days</td>
<td>LIGHT PROTECTED</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Refrigerated</td>
<td>14 days</td>
<td>LIGHT PROTECTED</td>
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</table>

**Clinical and Interpretive**

**Clinical Information**

Assessing whether a body fluid specimen is exudative or transudative in nature is the initial step in determining the etiology of the fluid. Transudative fluids result from hemodynamic aberrations or oncotic changes and are associated with ultrafiltration of serum across pleural membranes. Transudates most commonly occur in association with clinically apparent conditions such as heart failure and cirrhosis. Exudative fluids tend to develop as a consequence of inflammation or malignant disorders such as tuberculosis, pneumonia, or cancer, in which capillary permeability is increased, allowing large-molecular-weight compounds to be released into the accumulating fluid. If the fluid is transudate, further diagnostic procedures are often not necessary; however the presence of an exudative fluid often triggers additional testing that may be invasive in nature.

Determination of body fluid bilirubin concentration can aid in the distinction between a transudative and an exudative fluid. Bilirubin values tend to be higher in exudates than in transudates, although there is some overlap between groups. However, a ratio of body fluids to serum bilirubin has been reported to identify exudative body fluids with sensitivity, specifically, positive predictive accuracy, and absolute accuracy equivalent to that obtained using Light's criteria for an exudative pleural fluid (pleural/serum protein ratio >0.5, pleural/serum lactate dehydrogenase ratio >0.6, and serum lactate dehydrogenase >200 U/L).

**Reference Values**

Not applicable

The reference range has not been established for bilirubin in body fluids. The test result should be integrated into the clinical context for interpretation.

**Interpretation**

Elevated body fluid bilirubin is suggestive of an exudative fluid. This testing should be performed in conjunction with other testing including serum bilirubin analysis, body fluid:serum protein ratio, body fluids:serum lactate dehydrogenase ratio, and serum lactate dehydrogenase.

**Cautions**

Bilirubin is photosensitive. Failure to protect from light may cause decreased results.

Contamination by blood may cause altered results in either direction.

**Clinical Reference**


Test Definition: BFBL
Bilirubin, BF


Performance

Method Description
Total bilirubin, in the presence of a suitable solubilizing agent, is coupled with 3,5-dichlorophenyl diazonium in a strongly acidic medium to produce azobilirubin. The intensity of the color of the azobilirubin produced is proportional to the total bilirubin concentration and is measured at 546/600 nm. (Package insert: Bilirubin Total Gen. 3, Roche Diagnostics. Indianapolis, IN. 07/2014)

PDF Report
No

Day(s) and Time(s) Test Performed
Monday through Saturday; Continuously

Analytic Time
Same day

Maximum Laboratory Time
1 day

Specimen Retention Time
6 days

Performing Laboratory Location
Rochester

Fees and Codes

Fees
- Authorized users can sign in to Test Prices for detailed fee information.
- Clients without access to Test Prices can contact Customer Service 24 hours a day, seven days a week.
- Prospective clients should contact their Regional Manager. For assistance, contact Customer Service.

Test Classification
This test has been modified from the manufacturer's instructions. Its performance characteristics were determined by Mayo Clinic in a manner consistent with CLIA requirements. This test has not been cleared or approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.

CPT Code Information
82247
**LOINC® Information**

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<th>Order LOINC Value</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BFBL</td>
<td>Bilirubin, BF</td>
<td>1974-5</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Result ID</th>
<th>Test Result Name</th>
<th>Result LOINC Value</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BRNBF</td>
<td>Bilirubin (BF)</td>
<td>1974-5</td>
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<tr>
<td>FLD14</td>
<td>Fluid Type:</td>
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