

**Overview**

**Useful For**

Diagnosing and monitoring patients with lactic acidosis

**Method Name**

Colorimetric

**NY State Available**

Yes

**Specimen**

**Specimen Type**

Plasma NaFI-KOx

**Ordering Guidance**

This test does not measure D-lactate, an uncommon, often undiagnosed cause of lactic acidosis. See DLAC / D-Lactate, Plasma.

**Necessary Information**

Patient's age and sex are required.

**Specimen Required**

**Container/Tube:** Grey top (potassium oxalate/sodium fluoride)

**Specimen Volume:** 0.5 mL

**Collection Instructions:**

1. Collection must be at least 1 mL in a 2-mL draw tube or at least 2 mL in a 4-mL draw tube.

2. Spin down and separate plasma from cells.

**Specimen Minimum Volume**

0.25 mL

**Reject Due To**

Gross hemolysis	Reject
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**Specimen Stability Information**

Specimen Type	Temperature	Time	Special Container
Plasma NaFI-KOx	Refrigerated (preferred)	14 days	
	Ambient	8 hours	

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## Clinical and Interpretive

### Clinical Information

Anaerobic glycolysis markedly increases blood lactate and causes some increase in pyruvate levels, especially with prolonged exercise. The common cause for increased blood lactate and pyruvate is anoxia resulting from such conditions as shock, pneumonia, and congestive heart failure. Lactic acidosis may also occur in renal failure and leukemia. Thiamine deficiency and diabetic ketoacidosis are associated with increased levels of lactate and pyruvate.

Lactate measurements that evaluate the acid-base status are used in the diagnosis and treatment of lactic acidosis (abnormally high acidity in the blood).

### Reference Values

0-90 days (<3 months): < or =3.3 mmol/L

3-24 months: < or =3.1 mmol/L

>24 months-18 years: < or =2.2 mmol/L

>18 years: 0.5-2.2 mmol/L

### Interpretation

While no definitive concentration of lactate has been established for the diagnosis of lactic acidosis, lactate concentrations exceeding 5 mmol/L and pH below 7.25 are generally considered indicative of significant lactic acidosis.

### Cautions

Proper specimen collection and processing techniques are critical for reliable results.

### Clinical Reference

1. Mizock BA: The hepatosplanchnic area and hyperlactatemia: A tale of two lactates. Crit Care Med 2001;29(2):447-449
2. Duke T: Dysoxia and lactate. Arch Dis Child 1999;81(4):343-350

## Performance

### Method Description

Lactate concentration is determined using an enzymatic colorimetric method. L-lactate is oxidized to pyruvate by the specific enzyme lactate oxidase. Peroxidase is used to generate a colored dye using the hydrogen peroxide generated in the first reaction. The intensity of the color formed is directly proportional to the L-lactate concentration. It is determined by measuring the increase in absorbance.(Package insert: Roche Diagnostics, Indianapolis IN, 02/2016)

### PDF Report

No

### Day(s) Performed

Monday through Sunday

**Report Available**

Same day/1 to 2 days

**Specimen Retention Time**

2 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 cleared, approved or is exempt by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration and is used per manufacturer's instructions. Performance characteristics were verified by Mayo Clinic in a manner consistent with CLIA requirements.

**CPT Code Information**

83605

**LOINC® Information**

Test ID	Test Order Name	Order LOINC Value
LACS1	Lactate, P	2524-7

Result ID	Test Result Name	Result LOINC Value
LACS1	Lactate, P	2524-7