

Overview**Useful For**

Determining absence or presence of sperm postvasectomy

Method Name

Manual

NY State Available

No

Specimen**Specimen Type**

Semen

Specimen Required

Specimen must arrive within 24 hours of collection. Send specimen Monday through Thursday only and not the day before a holiday. If holiday falls on a Saturday, holiday will be observed on the preceding Friday. Sunday holidays are observed on the following Monday. Specimen should be collected and packaged as close to shipping time as possible. Laboratory does not perform testing on weekends.

Container/Tube: Semen Analysis Kit (T178)

Specimen Volume: Total ejaculate

Collection Instructions: Patient should have 2 to 7 days of sexual abstinence at the time of semen collection for accurate results.

Additional Information: Include the following information: semen volume and number of days of sexual abstinence.

Specimen Minimum Volume

NA

Reject Due To

All specimens will be evaluated by Mayo Clinic Laboratories for test suitability.

Specimen Stability Information

Specimen Type	Temperature	Time	Special Container
Semen	Ambient		

Clinical and Interpretive**Clinical Information**

Following a vasectomy, sperm may be found in the semen for 6 weeks to 3 months or longer. Regular ejaculation (every 3-4 days) may eliminate sperm from the reproductive tract more quickly.

To check for the absence of sperm, semen should be evaluated for the presence of sperm 3 months postvasectomy and after a minimum of 20 ejaculations. Because the sperm count may be very low, the semen is centrifuged for concentration purposes.

A negative result from 1 well-mixed postvasectomy semen specimen generally indicates that use of contraception is no longer necessary. Occasional cases have been reported where postvasectomy semen analysis (PVSA) shows intermittent presence of rare nonmotile sperm (RNMS) in the semen.(1)

Reference Values

Zero sperm seen

Interpretation

Patients may stop using other methods of contraception when examination of 1 well-mixed postvasectomy semen specimen shows azoospermia or rare nonmotile sperm (RNMS < or = 100,000 nonmotile sperm/mL).

The risk of pregnancy after vasectomy is approximately 1 in 2,000 for men who have postvasectomy azoospermia or postvasectomy semen analysis (PVSA) showing RNMS.(1)

If >100,000 nonmotile sperm/mL persist beyond 6 months after vasectomy, then trends of serial PVSAs and clinical judgment should be used to decide whether the vasectomy is a failure and whether repeat vasectomy should be considered.(1)

Vasectomy should be considered a failure if any motile sperm are seen on PVSA at 6 months after vasectomy, in which case repeat vasectomy should be considered.

Cautions

No significant cautionary statements

Clinical Reference

1. American Urologic Association Guidelines 2012. Available at: <https://www.auanet.org/education/clinical-practice-guidelines.cfm>

Performance

Method Description

Seminal fluid is examined microscopically for sperm. Specimen is centrifuged if no sperm are seen and re-examined for the presence or absence of sperm. If sperm are present, the number and motility are assessed and reported.(Keel BA, Webster BW: CRC Handbook of the Laboratory Diagnosis and Treatment of Infertility. Boca Raton, FL, CRC Press, 1990)

PDF Report

No

Day(s) and Time(s) Test Performed

Monday through Friday; Upon arrival

Analytic Time

1 day

Maximum Laboratory Time

4 days

Specimen Retention Time

Specimens are discarded after testing

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 was developed and its performance characteristics 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

89321

LOINC® Information

Test ID	Test Order Name	Order LOINC Value
POSV	Post Vasectomy Check, Semen	In Process

Result ID	Test Result Name	Result LOINC Value
ABSTN	Abstinence	10587-4
CLST1	Collection Site	56816-2
VL53	Semen Volume	3160-9
CENT	Centrifuged	8100-0
SPML1	Sperm/mL	51623-7
MOTIL	Motility	6800-7
GR3	Grade	29990-9
CMMT4	Comment	48767-8