

## Overview

### Useful For

Assessing the concentrating and diluting ability of the kidney

### Method Name

FreezingPointDepression

### NY State Available

Yes

## Specimen

### Specimen Type

Urine

### Specimen Required

**Supplies:** Urine tubes, 10 mL (T068)

**Container/Tube:** Plastic, 10-mL urine tube

**Specimen Volume:** 5 mL

**Collection Instructions:** Collect a random urine specimen.

### Forms

If not ordering electronically, complete, print, and send a [Renal Diagnostics Test Request](#) (T830) with the specimen.

### Specimen Minimum Volume

1 mL

### Reject Due To

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

## Specimen Stability Information

Specimen Type	Temperature	Time	Special Container
Urine	Refrigerated (preferred)	7 days	
	Frozen	7 days	

## Clinical and Interpretive

### Clinical Information

Osmolality is an index of the solute concentration. Urine osmolality is a measure of the concentration of osmotically

active particles, principally sodium, chloride, potassium, and urea; glucose can contribute significantly to the osmolality when present in substantial amounts in urine. Urinary osmolality corresponds to urine specific gravity in nondisease states.

The ability of the kidney to maintain both tonicity and water balance of the extracellular fluid can be evaluated by measuring the osmolality of the urine either routinely or under artificial conditions. More information concerning the state of renal water handling or abnormalities of urine dilution or concentration can be obtained if urinary osmolality is compared to serum osmolality and if urine electrolyte studies are performed. Normally, the ratio of urine osmolality to serum osmolality is 1.0 to 3.0, reflecting a wide range of urine osmolality.

### Reference Values

0-11 months: 50-750 mOsm/kg

> or =12 months: 150-1,150 mOsm/kg

### Interpretation

With normal fluid intake and normal diet, a patient will produce urine of about 500 to 850 mosmol/kg water. Above age of 20 years, there is an age dependent decline in the upper reference range of approximately 5 mOsm/kg/year.

The normal kidney can concentrate urine to 800 to 1,400 mosmol/kg and with excess fluid intake, a minimal osmolality of 40 to 80 mosmol/kg can be reached.

With dehydration, the urine osmolality should be 3 to 4 times the plasma osmolality.

### Cautions

No significant cautionary statements

### Clinical Reference

Newman D, Price C: Renal function and nitrogen metabolites. In Tietz Textbook of Clinical Chemistry. Fourth edition. Edited by CA Burtis, ER Ashwood. Philadelphia, PA, WB Saunders Company, 2006

### Performance

#### Method Description

Measurement of the freezing point of urine is the most widely used principle in osmometers. The extent of lowering below 0 degrees C (the freezing point of water) is a function of the concentration of substances dissolved in the urine. By definition, 1 milliosmole per kilogram lowers the freezing point 0.001858 degrees C. (Murphy JE, Henry JB: Evaluation of renal function, and water, and electrolyte, and acid base balance. In Todd-Sanford-Davidsohn Clinical Diagnosis and Management by Laboratory Methods. 16th edition. Edited by JB Henry. Philadelphia, WB Saunders Company, 1979, pp 135-152)

#### PDF Report

No

#### Day(s) and Time(s) Test Performed

Monday through Sunday; Continuously

#### Analytic Time

Same day/1 day

#### Maximum Laboratory Time

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Same day/1 day

**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 or approved 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**

83935

**LOINC® Information**

Test ID	Test Order Name	Order LOINC Value
UOSMU	Osmolality, U	2695-5

Result ID	Test Result Name	Result LOINC Value
UOSMU	Osmolality, U	2695-5