

Overview

Useful For

Assessment of acid-base status in patients for whom arterial sampling is not indicated or would be difficult

Method Name

Potentiometry/Amperometry

NY State Available

No

Specimen

Specimen Type

Whole Blood Li Heparin

Specimen Minimum Volume

0.5 mL

Reject Due To

No specimen should be rejected.

Specimen Stability Information

Specimen Type	Temperature	Time	Special Container
Whole Blood Li Heparin	Ambient (preferred)		
	Refrigerated	1 hours	

Clinical & Interpretive

Clinical Information

pH, pCO₂, and calculated bicarbonate can be used to assess acid-base status and gas exchange in the lungs (carbon dioxide retention). Assessment of oxygenation is best done with an arterial blood gas determination.

Reference Values

pO₂
Not applicable

pCO₂ [7]
41-51 mm Hg

pH [6]

7.32-7.43

Base Excess

Not applicable

HCO₃

Not applicable

Interpretation

Patient results vary depending on the underlying medical condition and the type of therapy being received. The following assessments should be made:

-Is carbon dioxide being retained?

-Is the acid-base status normal or is there evidence of a respiratory or metabolic acidosis or alkalosis?

Cautions

Reference ranges for pCO₂, bicarbonate, and base excess are for mixed venous blood. Specimens drawn from a peripheral vein will often have higher values.

Clinical Reference

1. Tobin MJ: Respiratory monitoring in the intensive care unit. *Am Rev Respir Dis*. 1988 Dec;138(6):1625-1642
2. McKane MH, Southorn PA, Santrach PJ, et al: Sending blood gas specimens through pressurized transport tube systems exaggerates the error in oxygen tension measurements created by the presence of air bubbles. *Anesth Analg*. 1995 Jul;81:179-182
3. Kraut JA, Madias NE: Approach to patients with acid-base disorders. *Respir Care*. 2001Apr;46(4):392-403
4. Malley MJ: *Clinical Blood Gases Assessment and Intervention*. 2nd ed. Elsevier Saunders; 2005
5. Ernst A, Zibrak JD: Carbon monoxide poisoning. *N Eng J Med*. 1998 Nov 26;339(22):1603-1608 doi: 10.1056/NEJM199811263392206
6. Burtis CA, Ashwood ER, Bruns DE, Sawyer BG, eds: *Tietz Fundamentals of Clinical Chemistry*. 6th ed. Elsevier Saunders; 2008
7. Clarke W, eds: *Contemporary Practices in Clinical Chemistry*. 2nd ed. AACC Press; 2011

Performance**Method Description**

From anticoagulated whole blood, the Radiometer ABL827 and Radiometer ABL90 analyzers make quantitative measurements of pH and the partial pressures of oxygen (pO₂) and carbon dioxide (pCO₂). The Radiometer ABL827 analyzer applies potentiometry in the pH, pCO₂, and electrolyte electrodes, and amperometry for the pO₂ electrode. Bicarbonate (HCO₃) and whole blood base excess (BE) are then calculated from the measured values. The Radiometer ABL90 analyzer applies potentiometry to the pH and pCO₂ sensors and an optical system to the pO₂ sensor. HCO₃ and whole blood BE are then calculated from the measured values. (Instruction manuals: Radiometer ABL800 FLEX, Radiometer Medical A/S, Denmark, Edition J, 6/2012; Radiometer ABL90 FLEX, Radiometer Medical A/S, Denmark, Edition G, 05/2013)

PDF Report

No

Day(s) Performed

Monday through Sunday

Report Available

Same day/1 day

Specimen Retention Time

Not retained

Performing Laboratory Location

Mayo Clinic Health System in Eau Claire

Fees & 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 account representative. For assistance, contact [Customer Service](#).

Test Classification

This test has been cleared, approved, or is exempt by the US 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

82805

LOINC® Information

Test ID	Test Order Name	Order LOINC® Value
VBGN2	Venous Blood Gas w/o Coox, B	24339-4

Result ID	Test Result Name	Result LOINC® Value
VSITE	Venous Sample Site	20506-2
PO2V	Venous pO2	2705-2
PCO2V	Venous pCO2	2021-4
BASEX	Venous Base Excess	1927-3
HCO3B	HCO3	14627-4
PHV1	Venous pH	2746-6