



Test Definition: MNCU

Manganese/Creatinine Ratio, Urine

Overview

Useful For

Measurement of manganese as a part of a profile

Monitoring manganese exposure

Nutritional monitoring

Clinical trials

Special Instructions

- [Metals Analysis Specimen Collection and Transport](#)

Method Name

Only orderable as part of a profile. For more information see MNRCU / Manganese/Creatinine Ratio, Random, Urine.

Triple-Quadrupole Inductively Coupled Plasma Mass Spectrometry (ICP-MS/MS)

NY State Available

Yes

Specimen

Specimen Type

Urine

Specimen Required

Only orderable as part of a profile. For more information see MNRCU / Manganese/Creatinine Ratio, Random, Urine.

Patient Preparation: High concentrations of gadolinium and iodine are known to potentially interfere with most inductively coupled plasma mass spectrometry-based metal tests. If either gadolinium- or iodine-containing contrast media has been administered, **a specimen should not be collected for 96 hours**

Supplies: Urine Tubes, 10 mL (T068)

Collection Container/Tube: Clean, plastic urine collection container with no metal cap or glued insert

Submission Container/Tube: Plastic, 10-mL urine tube or clean, plastic aliquot container with no metal cap or glued insert

Specimen Volume: 3 mL

Collection Instructions:

1. Collect a random urine specimen.
2. See [Metals Analysis Specimen Collection and Transport](#) for complete instructions.

Specimen Minimum Volume

2 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)	28 days	
	Ambient	7 days	
	Frozen	28 days	

Clinical & Interpretive**Clinical Information**

Manganese (Mn) is an essential trace element with many industrial uses. Mn is the 12th most abundant element in the earth's crust and is used predominantly in the production of steel. These industrial processes cause elevated environmental exposures to airborne Mn dust and fumes, which in turn have led to well-documented cases of neurotoxicity among exposed workers. Mining as well as iron and steel production have been implicated as sources of exposure.

Inhalation is the primary source of entry for Mn toxicity. Signs of toxicity may appear quickly or not at all; neurological symptoms are rarely reversible. Mn toxicity is generally recognized to progress through 3 stages. Levy describes these stages. "The first stage is a prodrome of malaise, somnolence, apathy, emotional lability, sexual dysfunction, weakness, lethargy, anorexia, and headaches. If there is continued exposure, progression to a second stage may occur, with psychological disturbances, including impaired memory and judgment, anxiety, and sometimes psychotic manifestations such as hallucinations. The third stage consists of progressive bradykinesia, dysarthria, axial and extremity dystonia, paresis, gait disturbances, cogwheel rigidity, intention tremor, impaired coordination, and a mask-like face. Many of those affected may be permanently and completely disabled."⁽¹⁾

Few cases of Mn deficiency or toxicity due to ingestion have been documented. Only 1% to 3% Mn is absorbed via ingestion, while most of the remaining Mn is excreted in the feces. As listed in the United States National Agriculture Library, Mn adequate intake is 1.6 to 2.3 mg/day for adults. This level of intake is easily achieved without supplementation by a diverse diet including fruits and vegetables, which have higher amounts of Mn than other food types. Patients on long-term parenteral nutrition should receive Mn supplementation and should be monitored to ensure that circulatory levels of Mn are appropriate.

Reference Values

Only orderable as part of a profile. For more information see MNRCU / Manganese/Creatinine Ratio, Random, Urine.

0-17 years: Not established

> or =18 years: <4.0 mcg/g creatinine

Interpretation

Manganese in urine represents the excretion of excess manganese from the body and may be used to monitor exposure or excessive nutritional intake.

Cautions

Specimens collected from healthy, unexposed adults have extremely low levels of manganese. Because of the high environmental concentration of manganese, contamination is always a possibility when considering elevated results. Precautions must be taken to ensure the specimen is not contaminated. Metal-free urine collection procedures must be followed.

Clinical Reference

1. Levy BS, Nassetta WJ. Neurologic effects of manganese in humans: A review. *Int J Occup Environ Health*. 2003;9(2):153-163. doi:10.1179/oeh.2003.9.2.153
2. Paschal DC, Ting BG, Morrow JC, et al. Trace metals in urine of United States residents: reference range concentrations. *Environ Res*. 1998;76(1):53-59. doi:10.1006/enrs.1997.3793
3. Rifai N, Chiu RWK, Young I, Burnham CAD, Wittwer CT, eds. *Tietz Textbook of Laboratory Medicine*. 7th ed. Elsevier; 2023
4. O'Neal SL, Zheng W. Manganese toxicity upon overexposure: a decade in review. *Curr Environ Health Rep*. 2015;2(3):315-328. doi:10.1007/s40572-015-0056-x

Performance**Method Description**

The metal of interest is analyzed by triple-quadrupole inductively coupled plasma mass spectrometry.(Unpublished Mayo method)

PDF Report

No

Day(s) Performed

Monday

Report Available

2 to 8 days

Specimen Retention Time

14 days

Performing Laboratory Location

Mayo Clinic Laboratories - Rochester Superior Drive

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 was developed and its performance characteristics determined by Mayo Clinic in a manner consistent with CLIA requirements. It has not been cleared or approved by the US Food and Drug Administration.

CPT Code Information

83785

LOINC® Information

Test ID	Test Order Name	Order LOINC® Value
MNCU	Manganese/Creat Ratio, U	27367-2

Result ID	Test Result Name	Result LOINC® Value
614994	Manganese/Creat Ratio, U	27367-2