



Test Definition: TMP

Trimethoprim, Serum

Overview

Useful For

Monitoring trimethoprim therapy to ensure drug absorption, clearance, or compliance

Method Name

Liquid Chromatography Tandem Mass Spectrometry (LC-MS/MS)

NY State Available

Yes

Specimen

Specimen Type

Serum Red

Specimen Required

Supplies: Sarstedt Aliquot Tube, 5 mL (T914)

Collection Container/Tube: Red top (gel tubes/SST are **not acceptable**)

Submission Container/Tube: Plastic vial

Specimen Volume: 1 mL

Collection Instructions:

1. Serum for a peak level should be collected at least 60 minutes after a dose.
2. Within 2 hours of collection, centrifuge and aliquot serum into a plastic vial.

Forms

If not ordering electronically, complete, print, and send 1 of the following forms with the specimen:

[-Therapeutics Test Request \(T831\)](#)

[-Neurology Specialty Testing Client Test Request \(T732\)](#)

Specimen Minimum Volume

0.5 mL

Reject Due To

Gross hemolysis	OK
Gross lipemia	OK
Gross icterus	OK

Specimen Stability Information

Specimen Type	Temperature	Time	Special Container
Serum Red	Refrigerated (preferred)	28 days	
	Ambient	28 days	
	Frozen	28 days	

Clinical & Interpretive

Clinical Information

Trimethoprim is coadministered with sulfamethoxazole for prophylaxis or treatment of bacterial infections. These agents are used to treat a variety of infections, including methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus*, and for prophylaxis in immunosuppressed patients, such as individuals who are HIV-positive.

Trimethoprim has a wide therapeutic index and dose-dependent toxicity. Trimethoprim accumulates in patients with kidney failure.

Therapeutic drug monitoring is not commonly performed unless there are concerns about adequate absorption, clearance, or compliance. Accordingly, routine drug monitoring is not indicated in all patients.

Reference Values

>2.0 mcg/mL (Peak)

Interpretation

Most patients will display peak steady-state serum concentrations of more than 2.0 mcg/mL when the specimen is collected at least 1 hour after an oral dose. Target concentrations may be higher depending on the intent of therapy.

Cautions

Specimens collected in serum gel tubes are not acceptable, as the drug can absorb on the gel and lead to falsely decreased concentrations.

Clinical Reference

1. Kamme C, Melander A, Nilsson NI. Serum and saliva concentrations of sulfamethoxazole and trimethoprim in adults in children: Relation between saliva concentrations and in vitro activity against nasopharyngeal pathogens. *Scand J Infect Dis.* 1983;15(1):107-113. doi:10.3109/inf.1983.15.issue-1.18
2. Young T, Oliphant C, Araoyinbo I, Volmink J. Co-trimoxazole prophylaxis in HIV: the evidence. *S Afr Med J.* 2008;98(4):258-259
3. Avdic E, Cosgrove SE. Management and control strategies for community-associated methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus*. *Expert Opin Pharmacother.* 2008;9(9):1463-1479. doi:10.1517/14656566.9.9.1463
4. Brunton LL, Hilal-Dandan R, Knollmann BC, eds. Goodman and Gilman's The Pharmacological Basis of Therapeutics. 13th ed. McGraw-Hill Publishing; 2018

Performance

Method Description

Samples are extracted, with analyte detection by tandem mass spectrometry.(Unpublished Mayo method)

PDF Report

No

Day(s) Performed

Monday, Thursday

Report Available

2 to 5 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

80299

LOINC® Information

Test ID	Test Order Name	Order LOINC® Value
TMP	Trimethoprim, S	11005-6

Result ID	Test Result Name	Result LOINC® Value
80146	Trimethoprim, S	11005-6