

Ethanol, Chain of Custody, Blood

Test ID: ALCX

Explanation: This test will become obsolete on the effective date due to the availability of more comprehensive clinical test options for volatile substance (ethanol, methanol, isopropanol, and acetone) testing.

Recommended Alternative Test:

Volatile Screen, Chain of Custody, Blood

Test ID: VLTBX

Methodology:

Headspace Gas Chromatography Flame Ionization Detector (HSGC-FID)

Reference Values:

Methanol:

Not detected (Positive results are quantitated.)

Toxic concentration: > or =10 mg/dL

Ethanol:

Not detected (Positive results are quantitated.)

Toxic concentration: > or =400 mg/dL

Isopropanol:

Not detected (Positive results are quantitated.)

Toxic concentration: > or =10 mg/dL

Acetone:

Not detected (Positive results are quantitated.)

Toxic concentration: > or =10 mg/dL

Specimen Requirements:

Supplies: Chain-of-Custody Kit (T282)

Container/Tube: Chain-of-Custody Kit containing the specimen container seals and documentation required.

Preferred: Gray top (potassium oxalate/sodium fluoride)

Acceptable: Lavender top (EDTA) or green top (sodium heparin)

Specimen Volume: 2 mL

Specimen Minimum Volume: 0.5 mL

Collection Instructions:

1. **Do not use alcohol to clean arm.** Use alternative such as Betadine to cleanse arm before collecting any specimen for volatile testing.
2. Specimen must be sent in original tube. Collect specimen, seal, and submit with the associated documentation to satisfy the legal requirements for chain of custody testing.

Specimen Stability Information:

Specimen Type	Temperature	Time
Whole blood	Refrigerated (preferred)	14 days
	Ambient	24 hours
	Frozen	28 days

CPT Code:

G0480

80320 (if appropriate for select payers)

[Clinical Toxicology CPT Code Client Guidance](#)

Day(s) Performed: Monday through Saturday

Report Available: 1 to 2 days

Questions

Contact Brandon DeBoom, Laboratory Resource Coordinator at 800-533-1710.