
Lab Dept: Hematology

Test Name: PARASITE, QUANTITATIVE BLOOD

General Information

Lab Order Codes: PARQ

Synonyms: Quantitative malaria, Babesia, Ehrlichia

CPT Codes: 85044 – Reticulocyte count, manual

Test Includes: # of infected RBC's, total RBC's and % of infected RBC's

Logistics

Test Indications: Useful for detecting infection with a blood parasite. Since infection with blood parasite cannot be ruled out by a single blood sample, blood for detecting parasites should be collected as follows:

On admission or when first suspected of parasitic infection.

This test is performed on all positives until parasites are no longer seen on the peripheral smear.

If a patient is experiencing cyclic fevers, collect the specimen a half-hour prior to the next onset of fever.

Lab Testing Sections: Hematology

Phone Numbers: MIN Lab: 612-813-6280

STP Lab: 651-220-6550

Test Availability: Daily, 24 hours

Turnaround Time: 4 hours

Special Instructions: Specimen must arrive within 1 hour of collection.

Specimen

Specimen Type: Whole blood

Container: Lavender (EDTA) top tube or Lavender (EDTA) Microtainer®

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| Draw Volume: | 2 mL blood in a 2 mL Lavender top tube OR 0.5 mL in an EDTA Microtainer® |
| Processed Volume: | Same as Draw Volume |
| Collection: | Routine blood collection. Fill to mark on tube or Microtainer®. Mix well by gentle inversion. |
| Special Processing: | Lab Staff: Do Not centrifuge. Specimen should remain as whole blood in original collection container. |
| Patient Preparation: | None |
| Sample Rejection: | Improper tube; clotted sample; underfilled tube; mislabeled or unlabeled specimens |

Interpretive

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|-------------------------|--|
| Reference Range: | Manual Miller Disc: 0 % |
| Critical Values: | N/A |
| Limitations: | N/A |
| Methodology: | Manual Count using a Miller Disc |
| References: | Children's Hospitals and Clinics Hematology Laboratory, October 2004 |