
Lab Dept: Hematology

Test Name: PLATELET COUNT

General Information

Lab Order Codes: PLTC

Synonyms: N/A

CPT Codes: 85049 – platelet count, automated

Test Includes: Platelet count reported as $10^3/\mu\text{L}$.

Logistics

Test Indications: Useful for evaluating, diagnosing, and/or following up bleeding disorders, drug induced thrombocytopenia, idiopathic thrombocytopenia purpura, disseminated intravascular coagulation (DIC), leukemia states, and investigating purpuric petechiae.

Lab Testing Sections: Hematology

Phone Numbers: MIN Lab: 612-813-6280

STP Lab: 651-220-6550

Test Availability: Daily, 24 hours

Turnaround Time: 2 hours

Special Instructions: **Do Not** collect specimen while lipids are being infused.

Specimen

Specimen Type: Whole blood

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

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

Stability:	Optimal when run within in 4 hours of collection. Stable for 24 hours at room temperature. Stable for 36 hours at 2 – 8 degrees C.
Collection:	Fill to mark on tube or Microtainer®. Mix thoroughly by gentle inversion.
Special Processing:	Lab Staff: Do not centrifuge. Process as whole blood.
Patient Preparation:	None
Sample Rejection:	Improper tube; clotted sample; underfilled tube; mislabeled or unlabeled specimens

Interpretive

Reference Range:	150 - 450 x 10 ³ /uL
Critical Values:	<50 or >1,000 x 10 ³ /uL <5 x 10 ³ /uL Hem/Onc clinics
Limitations:	Hyperlipemia or an extremely elevated WBC may on rare occasion delay the turnaround time of the platelet count.
Methodology:	Automated Cell Counter
References:	Harmening DH (1997) Clinical Hematology and Fundamentals of Hemostasis, 3rd ed Oski and Nathan (1998) Hematology of Infancy and Childhood, 5 th ed