Lab Dept: Chemistry

Test Name: C3 (THIRD COMPONENT OF COMPLEMENT)

General Information

Lab Order Codes: C3

Synonyms: C’3; Third component of complement; Complement 3

CPT Codes: 86160 – Complement; antigen, each component

Test Includes: C3 concentration reported in mg/dL

Logistics

Test Indications: C3 is the functional link between the classical and alternative pathways of activation for the membrane attack complex. The test is used for detecting consumption of the complement as seen in immune complex diseases.

Lab Testing Sections: Chemistry

Phone Numbers: MIN Lab: 612-813-6280
                      STP Lab: 651-220-6550

Test Availability: Daily, 24 hours

Turnaround Time: 1 day

Special Instructions: N/A

Specimen

Specimen Type: Blood

Container: Green top (Lithium Heparin) tube, preferred
                  Alternate: Red, marble or gold top tube

Draw Volume: 0.6 mL blood

Processed Volume: 0.2 mL serum

Collection: Routine venipuncture
**Special Processing:**
Lab Staff: Centrifuge specimen, remove serum aliquot into a plastic sample cup. Specimens can be stored at refrigerated temperatures for up to 7 days. Centrifuge turbid or particulate samples prior to analysis.

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Sample Rejection:** Mislabeled or unlabeled specimens

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**Interpretive**

**Reference Range:** 86 - 184 mg/dL

**Critical Values:** N/A

**Limitations:** N/A

**Methodology:** Nephelometry

**References:**

Siemens Dimension Vista C3 Flex Insert, P/N K7026G00E0803, Rev 3/2011

**Updates:** 2/8/2016: Update alt tube types