
Lab Dept: Chemistry

Test Name: C5 (FIFTH COMPONENT OF COMPLEMENT)

General Information

Lab Order Codes: CC5

Synonyms: C5 Complement Component, Serum; Fifth component of complement

CPT Codes: 86160 – Complement; antigen, each component

Test Includes: C5 level in mg/dL

Logistics

Test Indications: Useful for investigating an undetectable total complement (CH₅₀) level. A deficiency of an individual component of the complement cascade will result in an undetectable total complement level.

Lab Testing Sections: Chemistry - Sendouts

Referred to: Mayo Clinic Laboratories (MML Test: C5AG)

Phone Numbers: MIN Lab: 612-813-6280

STP Lab: 651-220-6550

Test Availability: Daily, 24 hours

Turnaround Time: 2- 5 days, test set up Monday - Friday

Special Instructions: See [Patient Preparation](#)

Specimen

Specimen Type: Blood

Container: SST (Gold, marble or red) tube

Draw Volume: 3 mL (Minimum: 1.5 mL) blood

Processed Volume: 1 mL (Minimum: 0.5 mL) serum

Collection: Routine venipuncture

Special Processing:	Lab Staff: Allow specimen to clot. Centrifuge specimen, remove serum aliquot and place into a screw-capped, round bottom, plastic vial. Ship and store at frozen temperatures. Forward promptly. Specimen stable frozen (preferred) for 60 days, ambient for 7 days, refrigerated for 28 days.
Patient Preparation:	Fasting is preferred but not required
Sample Rejection:	Specimens other than serum; mislabeled or unlabeled specimens; gross lipemia

Interpretive

Reference Range: 10.6 – 26.3 mg/dL

Critical Values: N/A

Limitations: Quantitation of specific proteins by nephelometric means may not be possible in lipemic sera due to the extreme light scattering properties of the specimen. Turbidity and particles in the specimen may result in extraneous light scattering signals, resulting in variable specimen analysis.

Methodology: Nephelometry

References: [Mayo Clinic Laboratories](#) February 2025

Updates: 11/12/2009: Reference range update, previously listed as 7.4 - 11.7 mg/dL.
12/13/2017: Collection container update.
02/06/2025: Updated patient preparation, turnaround time, and limitations. Added specimen stability.