**Lab Dept:** Hematology

**Test Name:** WBC COUNT, BLOOD

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**General Information**

**Lab Order Codes:** WBC

**Synonyms:** White Cell Count; Total WBC; Leukocyte Count

**CPT Codes:** 85048 – Blood count; white blood cell (WBC)

**Test Includes:** White blood count reported in K/UL (x 10^3/uL).

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**Logistics**

**Test Indications:** Useful in determining and following treatment for leukocytosis or leukopenia.

**Lab Testing Sections:** Hematology

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

**Test Availability:** Daily, 24 hours

**Turnaround Time:** 1 hour

**Special Instructions:** N/A

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**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 a 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®

**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

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**Interpretive**

**Reference Range:** Age dependent; Refer to CBC Reference Value Table

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Critical Values:</th>
<th>0 – 7 days:</th>
<th>&lt;5.0 or &gt;35.0 x 10³/uL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Others:</td>
<td>&lt;2.0 or &gt;25.0 x 10³/uL</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Limitations:** Lipemia, elevated WBC and cold agglutinins will prolong the turn around time of an occasional specimen.

**Methodology:** Automated Cell Counter


Oski and Nathan (1998) Hematology of Infancy and Childhood. 5th ed

**Updates:** 4/29/2005: Critical values updated for 0-7 day range, previously listed as <5.0 or >30.0 x10³/uL