### Lab Dept: Other Fluids

### Test Name: HCG BETA SUBUNIT, CSF

#### General Information

**Lab Order Codes:** BHCC  
**Synonyms:** Chorionic Gonadotropin, Beta-Subunit (Quantitative), CSF  
**CPT Codes:** 84702 – Gonadotropin, chorionic; quantitative  
**Test Includes:** HCG Beta subunit, CSF concentration reported in IU/L.

#### Logistics

**Test Indications:** Measurement of human chorionic gonadotropin (hCG) in spinal fluid facilitates diagnosis of brain metastases of testicular cancer or extragonadal intracerebral germ cell tumors.

**Lab Testing Sections:** Chemistry - Sendouts  
**Referred to:** Mayo Medical Laboratories (Test: BHSF)  
**Phone Numbers:**  
- MIN Lab: 612-813-6280  
- STP Lab: 651-220-6550  
**Test Availability:** Daily, 24 hours  
**Turnaround Time:** Monday – Saturday, 1 - 3 days  
**Special Instructions:** See Patient Preparation

#### Specimen

**Specimen Type:** CSF  
**Container:** Screw capped, sterile vial  
**Draw Volume:** 0.6 mL (Minimum: 0.5 mL) CSF  
**Processed Volume:** Same as Draw Volume  
**Collection:** Routine spinal fluid collection
**Special Processing:** Lab Staff: Refrigerate CSF aliquot. Send specimen refrigerated. (Note: Refrigerated samples are stable for 28 days.) Forward promptly.

**Patient Preparation:** Twelve hours before this test, do not take multivitamins or dietary supplements containing biotin or vitamin B7 that are commonly found in hair, skin and nail supplements and multivitamins.

**Sample Rejection:** Mislabeled or unlabeled specimens; gross hemolysis

## Interpretive

**Reference Range:** <1.0 IU/L

**Critical Values:** N/A

**Limitations:** N/A

**Methodology:** Electrochemiluminescent Immunoassay

**References:** [Mayo Medical Laboratories](https://www.mayoclinic.org) January 2018

**Updates:**
- 4/28/2015: Method update, previously listed as Immunometric Assay
- 1/23/2018: Updated reference range