
Lab Dept: Chemistry

Test Name: HISTAMINE, PLASMA

General Information

Lab Order Codes: HISP

Synonyms: NA

CPT Codes: 83088 - Histamine

Test Includes: Histamine concentration measured in nmol/L

Logistics

Test Indications: Useful for evaluating patients for diseases of immediate hypersensitivity or mast cell proliferation (mastocytosis). Histamine is one of the major mediators of allergic reactions. Some carcinoid tumors, particularly of gastric origin, produce and release excessive histamine. Symptoms of flushing, itching, urticaria, vomiting, syncope or shock assumed to be due to histamine release, which coincides with increased urine or plasma levels. Systemic mastocytosis or basophilia can produce persistent elevations in plasma or urine histamine concentrations.

Lab Testing Sections: Chemistry - Sendouts

Referred to: Fairview Medical Laboratories (Test# HISTW) forward to ARUP Laboratories (Test# 0070036)

Phone Numbers: MIN Lab: 612-813-6280

STP Lab: 651-220-6550

Test Availability: Daily, 24 hours

Turnaround Time: 7 days; performed twice weekly (Tuesday and Saturday)

Special Instructions: Pre-cool EDTA tube on ice before sample collection.

Specimen

Specimen Type: Blood

Container: Lavender-top (EDTA) tube

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

Processed Volume:	1 mL (Minimum: 0.5 mL) plasma
Collection:	Pre-cool EDTA tube on ice prior to collection. Routine venipuncture, invert gently to mix. Once collected put filled tube back on ice and send immediately to the lab for processing (within 10 minutes of collection).
Special Processing:	Lab Staff: Process iced specimen immediately. Centrifuge specimen immediately in refrigerated centrifuge at 2-8 degrees, separate upper 2/3 of plasma within 20 minutes of collection. Aliquot into a screw-capped round bottom plastic vial. Critical frozen specimen. Store and ship at frozen temperatures. Forward promptly.
Patient Preparation:	Patients should not have taken antihistamine drugs for 48 hours before testing.
Sample Rejection:	Specimen other than EDTA plasma, mislabeled or unlabeled specimens

Interpretive

Reference Range:	0 – 8 nmol/L
Critical Values:	N/A
Limitations:	Owing to rapid disappearance of histamine from the blood, histamine may be undetectable if specimens are obtained hours after an allergic (anaphylactic) reaction.
Methodology:	Enzyme Immunoassay (EIA)
References:	Fairview University Medical Laboratories July 2014
Updates:	1/11/2011: Testing moved from Mayo Medical Laboratories to Fairview University Laboratories (forward to ARUP). Test no longer available at Mayo. Note processing change and reference value/units change.