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**Lab Dept:** Chemistry

**Test Name:** INTERLEUKIN-6

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***General Information***

**Lab Order Codes:** IL6

**Synonyms:** Interleukin-6, Highly Sensitive Elisa

**CPT Codes:** 83520 – Immunoassay, analyte, quantitative, not otherwise specified

**Test Includes:** Interleukin 6 level reported in pg/mL.

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***Logistics***

**Test Indications:** IL-6, a multi-functional cytokine produced by a range of cells, plays a central role in host defense mechanisms, is involved in induction of B-cell differentiation, induction of IL-2 and IL-2 receptor expression and proliferation and differentiation of T cells. Elevated IL-6 concentrations are reported in a variety of autoimmune diseases (e.g., rheumatoid arthritis), proliferative diseases (e.g., mesangial proliferative glomerulonephritis), and malignancies (e.g., leukemia and lymphoma).

**Lab Testing Sections:** Chemistry – Sendouts

**Referred to:** Specialty Laboratories/Quest Diagnostics (SLAB Test: S51587)

**Phone Numbers:** MIN Lab: 612-813-6280

STP Lab: 651-220-6550

**Test Availability:** Daily, 24 hours

**Turnaround Time:** 5 - 12 days, test is set up once weekly (Thursday)

**Special Instructions:** N/A

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***Specimen***

**Specimen Type:** Blood

**Container:** Lavender (EDTA) top tube  
Alternate tube: Red top tube

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

<b>Processed Volume:</b>	1 mL (Minimum: 0.5 mL) serum/plasma
<b>Collection:</b>	Routine venipuncture
<b>Special Processing:</b>	Lab Staff: Centrifuge specimen, remove serum aliquot. Store and ship at frozen temperatures. Forward promptly.
<b>Patient Preparation:</b>	None
<b>Sample Rejection:</b>	Unlabeled or mislabeled specimens; thawed plasma; thawed serum; thawed serum; received room temperature; received refrigerated

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### ***Interpretive***

<b>Reference Range:</b>	0.31 – 5.00 pg/mL
<b>Critical Values:</b>	N/A
<b>Limitations:</b>	This test was performed using a kit that has not been approved or cleared by the FDA. The analytical performance characteristics of this test have been determined by Quest Diagnostics Nichols Institute, San Juan Capistrano. This test should not be used for diagnosis without confirmation by other medically established means.
<b>Methodology:</b>	ELISA (Enzyme Linked Immunosorbent Immunoassay)
<b>References:</b>	<a href="#">Specialty Laboratories/Quest Web Page</a> July 2015
<b>Updates:</b>	3/24/2009: Updated volumes, method and CPT.