
Lab Dept: Chemistry

Test Name: LIPOPROTEIN a

General Information

Lab Order Codes: LIPOA

Synonyms: Lp(a) apoprotein

CPT Codes: 83695 – Lipoprotein (a)

Test Includes: Lipoprotein a level reported in nmol/L.

Logistics

Test Indications: Providing additional information on coronary heart disease risk in patients known or suspected to be at increased risk based on other factors, including family history of premature coronary heart disease or stroke, hypertension, cigarette smoking, obesity, diabetes mellitus, increased concentration of LDL cholesterol, and depressed concentration of high density lipoprotein (HDL) cholesterol.

Lab Testing Sections: Chemistry – Sendouts

Referred to: Mayo Medical Laboratories (MML Test: LIPA1)

Phone Numbers: MIN Lab: 612-813-6280

STP Lab: 651-220-6550

Test Availability: Daily, 24 hours

Turnaround Time: 1 – 3 days

Special Instructions: N/A

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 blood collection
Special Processing:	Lab staff: Centrifuge specimen, remove serum aliquot into a screw-top plastic vial. Store and ship at refrigerated temperatures. Forward promptly.
Patient Preparation:	None
Sample Rejection:	Mislabeled or unlabeled specimens; gross hemolysis; gross lipemia; grossly icteric

Interpretive

Reference Range: >or =18 years: <75 nmol/L

Values > or =75 nmol/L may suggest increased risk of coronary heart disease.

Values > or =175 nmol/L is considered a risk-enhancing factor for cardiovascular disease by several professional societies. Clinician-patient discussion of therapeutic strategy is warranted. Reference values have not been established for patients who are less than 18 years of age.

Interpretation: Lipoprotein (a) (Lp[a]) concentrations of 75 nmol/L and above is linearly related to increased risk of cardiovascular events independent of conventional risk markers

Critical Values: N/A

Limitations: Epidemiologic studies have shown lipoprotein (a) (Lp[a]) concentrations are lowest in non-Hispanic white, Chinese, and Japanese populations. The Hispanic population has a slightly higher median Lp(a) concentration, and, in the African American population, the median Lp(a) serum concentration is approximately 2 times higher than in the white population.

In very rare cases, gammopathy, type IgM (Waldenstrom macroglobulinemia) in particular, may cause unreliable results

Methodology: Immunoturbidimetric Assay

References: [Mayo Clinic Laboratories Web Page](#) October 2021

Updates: 1/23/2006: CPT 2006 updates
4/19/2012: Changed from frozen to refrigerated
2/1/2018: Collection container update
10/6/2021: Ref range and method update