
Lab Dept: Chemistry

Test Name: PEPSIN A ASSAY

General Information

Lab Order Codes: PEPAS

Synonyms: N/A

CPT Codes: 83516 – Immunoassay for analyte other than infectious agent antibody or infectious agent antigen; qualitative or semiquantitative, multiple step method

Test Includes: pH, Protein reported in mg/ml, Pepsin A Units reported in ng/mL

Logistics

Test Indications: Gastric pepsin detected in the airway of patients is a specific and sensitive marker to assess pulmonary aspiration.

Lab Testing Sections: Chemistry – Sendouts

Referred to: Mayo Medical Laboratories (MML Test: FPEPA) (Mayo forward to Alfred I. duPont Hosp for Children-Gastroenterology)

Phone Numbers: MIN Lab: 612-813-6280

STP Lab: 651-220-6550

Test Availability: Daily, 24 hours

Turnaround Time: 5-9 days, test performed Monday - Friday

Special Instructions: N/A

Specimen Type: Tracheal or Bronch Fluid

Container: Screw-capped vial

Draw Volume: 1 mL (min 0.5 mL) tracheal or bronch fluid

Processed Volume: Same as Draw Volume.

Collection:	<p>Tracheal aspirate: Attach a LUKI trap to a suction catheter, pass the catheter down the endotracheal tube, and apply suction to the catheter as the catheter is withdrawn. If the secretion is too thick to be withdrawn, instill saline (2 mL) to the tracheal tube prior to aspirating the secretion.</p> <p>Bronchial Fluid: Bronchial secretion can be collected using a standard collection protocol.</p> <p>Avoid over-diluting specimen with a large amount of saline during collection.</p> <p>Transfer to a small, tightly capped plastic tube immediately after collection. Send to lab.</p>
Special Processing:	Lab Staff: Send 1 mL (Minimum: 0.5 mL) in a tightly capped vial. Freeze as soon as possible. Forward to reference lab at frozen temperatures.
Patient Preparation:	N/A
Sample Rejection:	Specimens received not frozen. Mislabeled or unlabeled specimens.

Interpretive

Reference Range:	<p><3.0 Negative</p> <p>3-50 Weak to moderate positive</p> <p>>50 Strong positive</p>
Critical Values:	N/A
Limitations:	N/A
Methodology:	ELISA with Immunofluorescence
References:	Mayo Medical Laboratories (May 2017)