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**Lab Dept:** Chemistry

**Test Name:** PREALBUMIN

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***General Information***

**Lab Order Codes:** PRAB

**Synonyms:** Transthyretin

**CPT Codes:** 84134 - Prealbumin

**Test Includes:** Prealbumin concentration reported in mg/dL.

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***Logistics***

**Test Indications:** Prealbumin is a short-lived, rapid responder to nutritional adequacy and a transport protein for thyroxine and Vitamin A. An elevated concentration is associated with renal insufficiency and steroid administration.

**Lab Testing Sections:** Chemistry

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

STP Lab: 651-220-6550

**Test Availability:** Daily, 24 hours

**Turnaround Time:** 2 hours

**Special Instructions:** N/A

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***Specimen***

**Specimen Type:** Blood

**Container:** Green top (Li Heparin) tube, **preferred**  
Alternate tube: Red, marble, or gold top tube

**Draw Volume:** 0.6 mL blood

**Processed Volume:** 0.2 mL plasma/serum

**Collection:** Routine venipuncture. Mix tubes containing anticoagulant by gentle inversion.

**Special Processing:** Lab Staff: Centrifuge specimen, remove serum/plasma aliquot into a plastic sample cup. Store at refrigerated temperatures.

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Sample Rejection:** Mislabeled or unlabeled specimen

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***Interpretive***

**Reference Range:**

<b>Age:</b>	<b>Range:</b>
Normal newborn (0 - 4 days):	4.7 - 18.7 mg/dL
4 days - 3 months:	15.9 - 24.4 mg/dL
>3 months:	21.2 - 42.4 mg/dL

**Critical Values:** N/A

**Limitations:** N/A

**Methodology:** Nephelometry, Siemens Dimension Vista

**References:** Jacobs and DeMott Laboratory Test Handbook (2001) Lexi-Comp, Inc., Hudson, OH, 5<sup>th</sup> ed

Siemens Dimension Vista PREALB Flex Insert, PN K7064G00E0805, 6/12

**Updates:**  
12/22/2011: Turnaround time updated, previously listed as 1 day.  
3/6/2014: Method update, previously listed as PETIA  
2/9/2016: Update alt tube type