
Lab Dept: Chemistry

Test Name: SODIUM

General Information

Lab Order Codes: NA

Synonyms: Sodium

CPT Codes: 84295 – Sodium; serum

Test Includes: Sodium concentration measured in mEq/L. Sodium is also included in the following panels: [Electrolyte Panel](#), [Basic Metabolic Panel](#), [Comprehensive Metabolic Panel](#), [Renal Panel](#)

Logistics

Test Indications: Useful for evaluating electrolyte balance. Sodium concentration is maintained within narrow limits by carefully balanced, complex control mechanisms involving the brain, hypothalamus, pituitary, adrenal and kidney. Changes may occur in many conditions including dehydration, diabetes insipidus or mellitus, dietary intake, steroid therapy, kidney disease and congestive heart failure.

Lab Testing Sections: Chemistry

Phone Numbers: MIN Lab: 612-813-6280

STP Lab: 651-220-6550

Test Availability: Daily, 24 hours

Turnaround Time: 30 minutes

Special Instructions: N/A

Specimen

Specimen Type: Blood

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

Draw Volume: 0.6 mL blood

Processed Volume: 0.2 mL plasma/serum

Collection:	Routine collection
Special Processing:	Lab Staff: Centrifuge specimen, remove plasma/serum aliquot into plastic sample cup. Analyze sample immediately or store at refrigerated temperatures.
Patient Preparation:	None
Sample Rejection:	Mislabeled or unlabeled specimen

Interpretive

Reference Range:	137 – 147 mEq/L
Critical Values:	<124 mEq/L or >156 mEq/L
Limitations:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Benzylkonium salts present in some blood catheters will cause falsely increased results. • Thiopental increases sodium results by 8 mEq/L at a concentration of 14 mg/dL.
Methodology:	Integrated Multisensor Technology
References:	<p>QuikLYTE® Integrated Multisensor insert sheet (2009-09-10) PN 717500.003 - US, Rev. K Siemens Healthcare Diagnostics</p> <p>Dimension RxL MAX Operator's Guide (05/2003)</p> <p>Tietz Textbook of Clinical Chemistry (1999) 3rd Edition, W.B. Saunders Company</p> <p>Clinical Significance, Dade Behring Inc., Glasgow Business Community, Mailbox 531, P.O. Box 6101, Newark, Delaware 19714</p> <p>Jacobs & DeMott Laboratory Test Handbook (2001) Lexi-Comp, Inc, Hudson, OH, 5th Edition</p>
Updates:	<p>2/17/2005: Critical Values previously listed as <128 or >150 mEq/L.</p> <p>8/13/2009: Turnaround time previously listed as 2 hours.</p> <p>2/9/2016: Update alt tube types</p>