
Lab Dept: Coagulation

Test Name: VON WILLEBRAND SCREEN

General Information

Lab Order Codes: VWS

Synonyms: See individual test listings, links can be found under [Reference Range](#)

CPT Codes: 85240 - Clotting; factor VIII (AHG), one stage
85245 - Factor VIII vW Factor, Ristocetin cofactor
85246 – Factor VIII vW antigen factor

Test Includes: Factor VIII, Ristocetin Cofactor and von Willebrand antigen reported as a % and Ristocetin Cofactor:VW Antigen Ratio.

A specimen will be held for possible multimer analysis, please contact Pathology at 612- 813- 6711 for consultation. Tubes will be held for one month.

Logistics

Test Indications: Useful for diagnosis (or exclusion) of von Willebrand's disease or trait.

Lab Testing Section: Coagulation (Minneapolis Campus)

Phone Numbers: MIN Lab: 612-813-6280

STP Lab: 651-220-6550

Test Availability: Daily, 24 hours

Turnaround Time: 3 – 5 Days, performed Tuesday and Thursday

Special Instructions: See [Patient Preparation](#)

Deliver immediately to the laboratory at room temperature. Indicate when specimen is drawn from a line or a heparin lock.

Specimen

Specimen Type: Whole blood

Container: Light Blue (Buffered Na Citrate 3.2%) top tubes

Draw Volume: Minimum: 5.4 mL blood (into two 2.7 mL tubes)

Processed Volume: Minimum: 1.8 mL plasma

Collection:

- A clean venipuncture is essential, avoid foaming.
- Entire sample must be collected with single collection, pooling of sample is unacceptable.
- Capillary collection is unacceptable.
- Patient's with a hematocrit level >55% must have a special tube made to adjust for the hematocrit; contact lab for a special tube.
- Mix thoroughly by gentle inversion. Deliver immediately to the laboratory at room temperature via courier or pneumatic tube.

Off campus collections:

- Must be tested within 4 hours.
- Do not refrigerate.
- If not received in our lab within 4 hours of collection, sample must be centrifuged and *platelet-poor plasma removed from cells and transferred to an aliquot tube being careful not to disturb the cell layer. Centrifuge the plasma a second time and transfer into a clean aliquot tube being careful not to include any residual platelets on the bottom of the tube. Freeze at -20°C and deliver to the lab on dry ice within 2 weeks.

***Validation of your lab's centrifuge for platelet poor plasma is required**

Special Processing: Lab Staff: All testing will be performed in Minneapolis.

St. Paul Lab: Send whole blood specimens to Mpls for processing via courier. Must be processed within 4 hours of collection. Contact Mpls prior to sending.

Mpls Lab: Centrifuge specimen, remove plasma sample taking care not to disturb buffy coat. Perform a second spin after removing plasma from the original collection containers. Aliquot into two screw top plastic vials (Minimum: 0.5 mL in each). Store frozen at -70 degrees C (one vial in "VWS to be completed" cup and the other in the "von Willebrand Multimer Testing" cup for potential multimer analysis) temperatures.

Patient Preparation: No Heparin for 2 days prior to testing.

Sample Rejection: Improper tube; clotted sample; underfilled tube; mislabeled or unlabeled specimens

Interpretive

Reference Range:

See individual tests for specific reference ranges:

[von Willebrand Antigen](#)

[Factor VIII Assay](#)

[Ristocetin Cofactor](#)

For further interpretation of results or questions regarding Multimer analysis, please contact Pathology at 612- 813- 6711.

Critical Values:

N/A

Limitations:See individual test listings, links can be found under [Reference Range](#)**Methodology:**See individual test listings, links can be found under [Reference Range](#)**References:**See individual test listings, links can be found under [Reference Range](#)**Updates:**

5/24/2010: Tubing patient specimens is no longer prohibited.

9/15/2014: Added Off Campus collection info.

8/2/2015: Days performed updated

12/2/2019: Updated draw volume.