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**Lab Dept:** Hematology

**Test Name:** DIFFERENTIAL

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***General Information***

**Lab Order Codes:** ADIF

**Synonyms:** Differential White Blood Cell (WBC) Count, Blood; Manual Diff; Diff; WBC Differential; Leukocyte Differential Count

**CPT Codes:** 85007 – Blood count; manual differential WBC count (includes RBC morphology and platelet estimation)

**Test Includes:** BLAST%, PROMYELO%, MYELO%, META%, PMN%, BAND%, LYMPH%, MONO%, EOS%, BASO%, Absolute Neutrophil Count, RBC Morphology, WBC Morphology, Platelet Morphology and Estimate

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***Logistics***

**Test Indications:** Useful for determining qualitative and quantitative variations in white cell numbers and morphology, red cell morphology, and platelet evaluation. May be of use in the evaluation of anemia, leukemia, infections, inflammatory states, and inherited disorders of red cells, white cells, and platelets.

**Lab Testing Sections:** Hematology

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

STP Lab: 651-220-6550

**Test Availability:** Daily, 24 hours

**Turnaround Time:** 2 hours

**Special Instructions:** A WBC count must accompany a differential order.

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***Specimen***

**Specimen Type:** Whole blood

**Container:** Lavender (EDTA) top tube or Lavender (EDTA) Microtainer®

**Draw Volume:** 2 mL blood in a 2 mL Lavender top tube  
**OR**  
0.5 mL in a EDTA Microtainer®

<b>Processed Volume:</b>	Same as Draw Volume
<b>Collection:</b>	Fill to mark on tube or Microtainer®. Mix thoroughly by gentle inversion.
<b>Special Processing:</b>	Lab Staff: <b>Do Not</b> centrifuge. Process as whole blood.
<b>Patient Preparation:</b>	None
<b>Sample Rejection:</b>	Improper tube; clotted sample; underfilled tube; mislabeled or unlabeled specimens

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### ***Interpretive***

<b>Reference Range:</b>	Age dependent, <a href="#">Refer to CBC Reference Value Table</a>
<b>Critical Values:</b>	Presence of blasts
<b>Limitations:</b>	Because of sampling, large statistical variation exists, particularly with the 100-cell count manual method and with low incidence cells.
<b>Methodology:</b>	Light Microscopy
<b>References:</b>	Harmening DH (1997) Clinical Hematology and Fundamentals of Hematology, 3 <sup>rd</sup> ed  Oski and Nathan (1998) Hematology of Infancy and Childhood, 5 <sup>th</sup> ed