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**Lab Dept:** Hematology

**Test Name:** HEMATOCRIT

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***General Information***

**Lab Order Codes:** HCT

**Synonyms:** Whole Blood Hematocrit; Microhematocrit; Packed Cell Volume; PCV

**CPT Codes:** 85014 – Blood count; Other than spun hematocrit

**Test Includes:** Hematocrit reported as a %.

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***Logistics***

**Test Indications:** Useful for evaluating anemia, blood loss, hemolytic anemia, polycythemia, and state of hydration, etc.

**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:** N/A

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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®

**Processed Volume:** Same as Draw Volume

**Collection:** Fill to mark on tube or Microtainer®. Mix thoroughly by gentle inversion.

**Special Processing:** Lab Staff: **Do Not** centrifuge

<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 and sex dependent; <a href="#">Refer to CBC Reference Value Table</a>
<b>Critical Values:</b>	<21% and >67%
<b>Limitations:</b>	Falsely high results may occur with cryoproteins, significant leukocytosis, and giant platelets. False low results may be seen with microcytosis, in vitro hemolysis or with autoagglutinins.
<b>Methodology:</b>	Automated cell counter; calculated (HCT = RBC x MCV)
<b>References:</b>	Harmening DH (1997) Clinical Hematology and Fundamentals of Hemostasis, 3 <sup>rd</sup> ed
<b>Updates:</b>	2/17/2005: Critical values previously listed as 0-7 days: <35/>65%, 8-28 days: <30/>65%, >28 days: <25/>65%. 1/26/2015: Critical value change, previously listed as <21% and >65%.