**Lab Dept:** Hematology  
**Test Name:** HEMOGLOBIN

### General Information

**Lab Order Codes:** HGB  
**Synonyms:** Hgb; Hb  
**CPT Codes:** 85018 – Blood count; hemoglobin  
**Test Includes:** Hemoglobin reported in g/dL.

### Logistics

**Test Indications:** Useful for evaluating anemia, blood loss, hemolysis, polycythemia, and other diseases of hematopoiesis.  
**Lab Testing Sections:** Hematology  
**Phone Numbers:** MIN Lab: 612-813-6280  
STP Lab: 651-220-6550  
**Test Availability:** Daily, 24 hours  
**Turnaround Time:** 4 hours  
**Special Instructions:** N/A

### Specimen

**Specimen Type:** Whole blood  
**Container:** Lavender (EDTA) top tube, Lavender (EDTA) Microtainer®  
**Draw Volume:** 2 mL blood in a 2 mL Lavender top tube  
**Processed Volume:** Same as Draw Volume  
**Stability:** Optimal when run within in 4 hours of collection.  
Stable for 24 hours at room temperature.  
Stable for 36 hours at 2 – 8 degrees C.
Collection: Fill to mark on tube or Microtainer®. Mix thoroughly by gentle inversions.

Special Processing: Lab Staff: **Do Not** centrifuge. Process as whole blood.

Patient Preparation: None

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

**Interpretive**

Reference Range: Age and sex dependent, see CBC Reference Value Table

Critical Values: <7.0 g/dL

Limitations: Characteristics that may affect results include: lipemia (or patients receiving lipids), icterus and cold agglutinins.

Hyperlipemic plasma or WBC >100,000/mm³ may falsely elevate the hemoglobin result which may delay the turnaround time.

Methodology: Cyanmethemoglobin - Automated Cell Counter


References:

Updates: 2/17/2005: Critical values previously listed as 0-7 day: <11.5 g/dL, 8-28 days: <10.0 g/dL, >28 days: <8.0 g/dL.
9/26/2018: Update to lipemic specimen info.