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**Lab Dept:** Hematology

**Test Name:** PLATELET COUNT

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***General Information***

**Lab Order Codes:** PLTC

**Synonyms:** N/A

**CPT Codes:** 85027 – Hemogram and platelet count, automated

**Test Includes:** Platelet count reported as  $10^3/\mu\text{L}$ .

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***Logistics***

**Test Indications:** Useful for evaluating, diagnosing, and/or following up bleeding disorders, drug induced thrombocytopenia, idiopathic thrombocytopenia purpura, disseminated intravascular coagulation (DIC), leukemia states, and investigating purpuric petechiae.

**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:** **Do Not** collect specimen while lipids are being infused.

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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 an EDTA Microtainer®

**Processed Volume:** Same as Draw Volume

<b>Stability:</b>	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.
<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>	150 - 450 x 10 <sup>3</sup> /uL
<b>Critical Values:</b>	<50 or >1,000 x 10 <sup>3</sup> /uL
<b>Limitations:</b>	Hyperlipemia or an extremely elevated WBC may on rare occasion delay the turnaround time of the platelet count.
<b>Methodology:</b>	Automated Cell Counter
<b>References:</b>	Harmening DH (1997) Clinical Hematology and Fundamentals of Hemostasis, 3rd ed  Oski and Nathan (1998) Hematology of Infancy and Childhood, 5 <sup>th</sup> ed