
Lab Dept: Hematology

Test Name: UNSTABLE HEMOGLOBIN

General Information

Lab Order Codes: UHG

Synonyms: Hemoglobin, Unstable, Blood; Test for congenital Heinz Body Hemolytic Anemia; Hgb Heat Sensitivity; Heat Stability Test; Isopropanol Stability Test; RBC Heat Stability Test

CPT Codes: 83068 - Hemoglobin; unstable, screen

Test Includes: Unstable hemoglobin reported as Normal (stable) or Abnormal (unstable).

Logistics

Test Indications: Determine the presence of unstable hemoglobins, most of which are not identified by routine hemoglobin electrophoresis, although subtle indications of an abnormality may be observed. Work-up of congenital hemolytic anemias

Lab Testing Sections: Hematology - Sendouts

Referred to: Mayo Medical Laboratories (MML Test# UNHB/9095)

Phone Numbers: MIN Lab: 612-813-6280

STP Lab: 651-220-6550

Test Availability: Daily, 24 hours

Turnaround Time: 1 – 4 days

Special Instructions: N/A

Specimen

Specimen Type: Whole blood

Container: Lavender top (EDTA) tube
Alternate: Yellow (ACD) or Green top tubes

Draw Volume: 4 mL blood

Processed Volume:	Same as Draw Volume
Collection:	Routine venipuncture. Mix specimen well by gentle inversion.
Special Processing:	Lab Staff: Do not centrifuge. Specimen should remain in original collection container. Store and ship at refrigerated temperatures. Forward promptly.
Patient Preparation:	None
Sample Rejection:	Clotted, frozen, mislabeled or unlabeled specimens; specimens >7 days old; specimens other than whole blood

Interpretive

Reference Range:	Normal (reported as normal [stable] or abnormal [unstable]) Interpretation: An abnormal or unstable result is indicative of a hemoglobin variant present. Other confirmatory tests should be performed to identify the hemoglobinopathy.
Critical Values:	N/A
Limitations:	False-positive results will be obtained in blood specimen that contain >5% fetal hemoglobin or in specimens that are received more than one week old.
Methodology:	Isopropanol Solubility
References:	Mayo Medical Laboratories Web Page October 2013 Harmening DH (1997) Clinical Hematology and Fundamentals of Hemostasis, 3 rd ed
Updates:	10/2/13: Specimen volume change, previously listed as 2 mL.