
Lab Dept: Hematology

Test Name: WBC COUNT, BLOOD

General Information

Lab Order Codes: WBC

Synonyms: White Cell Count; Total WBC; Leukocyte Count

CPT Codes: 85048 – Blood count; white blood cell (WBC)

Test Includes: White blood count reported in K/UL (x 10³/uL).

Logistics

Test Indications: Useful in determining and following treatment for leukocytosis or leukopenia.

Lab Testing Sections: Hematology

Phone Numbers: MIN Lab: 612-813-6280

STP Lab: 651-220-6550

Test Availability: Daily, 24 hours

Turnaround Time: 1 hour

Special Instructions: N/A

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

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®
Special Processing:	Lab Staff: Do not centrifuge. Process as whole blood.
Patient Preparation:	None
Sample Rejection:	Improper tube; clotted sample; underfilled tube; mislabeled or unlabeled specimens

Interpretive

Reference Range:	Age dependent; Refer to CBC Reference Value Table	
Critical Values:	0 – 7 days:	<5.0 or >35.0 x 10 ³ /uL
	Others:	<2.0 or >25.0 x 10 ³ /uL

Limitations: Lipemia, elevated WBC and cold agglutinins will prolong the turn around time of an occasional specimen.

Methodology: Automated Cell Counter

References: Harmening DH (1997) Clinical Hematology and Fundamentals of Hemostasis, 3rd ed

Oski and Nathan (1998) Hematology of Infancy and Childhood. 5th ed

Updates: 4/29/2005: Critical values updated for 0-7 day range, previously listed as <5.0 or >30.0 x10³/uL