Lab Dept: Other Fluids

Test Name: HCG BETA SUBUNIT, CSF

General Information

Lab Order Codes: BHCC

Synonyms: Chorionic Gonadotropin, Beta-Subunit (Quantitative), CSF

CPT Codes: 84702 – Gonadotropin, chorionic; quantitative

Test Includes: HCG Beta subunit, CSF concentration reported in IU/L.

Logistics

Test Indications: Measurement of human chorionic gonadotropin (hCG) in spinal fluid facilitates diagnosis of brain metastases of testicular cancer or extragonadal intracerebral germ cell tumors.

Lab Testing Sections: Chemistry - Sendouts

Referred to: Mayo Medical Laboratories (Test: BHSF)

Phone Numbers:
- MIN Lab: 612-813-6280
- STP Lab: 651-220-6550

Test Availability: Daily, 24 hours

Turnaround Time: Monday – Saturday, 1 - 3 days

Special Instructions: See Patient Preparation

Specimen

Specimen Type: CSF

Container: Screw capped, sterile vial

Draw Volume: 1 mL (Minimum: 0.75 mL) CSF

Processed Volume: Same as Draw Volume

Collection: Routine spinal fluid collection
**Special Processing:** Lab Staff: Refrigerate CSF aliquot. Send specimen refrigerated. (Note: Refrigerated samples are stable for 28 days.) Forward promptly.

**Patient Preparation:** Twelve hours before this test, do not take multivitamins or dietary supplements containing biotin or vitamin B7 that are commonly found in hair, skin and nail supplements and multivitamins.

**Sample Rejection:** Mislabeled or unlabeled specimens; gross hemolysis

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**Interpretive**

**Reference Range:** <1.0 IU/L

**Critical Values:** N/A

**Limitations:** N/A

**Methodology:** Electrochemiluminescent Immunoassay

**References:** [Mayo Medical Laboratories](https://www.mayoclinic.org) January 2018

**Updates:**
- 4/28/2015: Method update, previously listed as Immunometric Assay
- 1/23/2018: Updated reference range
- 8/18/2020: Collection volume update per Mayo.