

---

**Lab Dept:** Other Fluids

**Test Name:** PH FLUID BY METER

---

***General Information***

**Lab Order Codes:** PHF

**Synonyms:** Body Fluid pH

**CPT Codes:** 83986 – pH, body fluid, except blood

**Test Includes:** pH reading from a pH electrode via meter.

---

***Logistics***

**Test Indications:** The pH value is a measure of hydrogen ion concentration. A variety of disease processes can alter pH values. Determining the pH value of a body fluid may help characterize the nature of the fluid.

**Lab Testing Sections:** Chemistry - Sendouts

**Referred to:** Mayo Medical Laboratories (Test: UPHB)

**Phone Numbers:** MIN Lab: 612-813-6280

STP Lab: 651-220-6550

**Test Availability:** Daily, 24 hours

**Turnaround Time:** 1 day

**Special Instructions:** Send to lab within 30 minutes of collection. Unacceptable specimens include: Chest fluid, Pleural fluid, Spinal fluid, Thoracic fluid

---

***Specimen***

**Specimen Type:** Fluid, aqueous

**Container:** Metal-free container (Mayo Supply T173)

**Draw Volume:** 5 mL preferred (Minimum: 1 mL) fluid

**Processed Volume:** Same as Draw Volume

**Collection:** Collect in clean, sterile container. Deliver to laboratory as soon as possible, pH will change with time. Specimens must be refrigerated within 30 minutes of collection.

**Special Processing:** Lab Staff: Submit entire specimen. Indicate body fluid source on the request form. Store and ship refrigerated. Stable for 24 hours.

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Sample Rejection:** Clotted specimen; mislabeled or unlabeled specimens; inappropriate specimens including: chest fluid, pleural fluid, spinal fluid, thoracic fluid

---

### ***Interpretive***

**Reference Range:** Not available

**Critical Values:** N/A

**Limitations:** N/A

**Methodology:** pH Meter

**References:** [Mayo Medical Laboratories](#) January 2018

**Update:** 12/12/2016: Moved from internal test to forward to Mayo/ARUP.  
5/16/2017: Moved to Allina Health Labs.  
6/13/2017: Moved from Allina to Mayo.