

Acceptable Tube Types



AST

Alternate Name:	Aspartate Aminotransferase, SGOT
Performing Lab:	New Hanover and Cape Fear
Specimen Container:	Yellow serum separator tube or Green top tube (lithium heparin) or Red top tube
Minimum Volume Required:	1.0 mL
Testing Availability	Routine: 24 hours/day Stat: Yes
Turnaround Time:	Routine: 4 hours Stat: < 1 hour
Special Handling:	None
Patient Preparation:	None
Specimen Stability:	
Reference Range:	15.0 – 37.0 U/L
Critical Value:	None
CPT Code:	84450
Testing Methodology:	Rate
Causes for Specimen Rejection:	Improper labeling Hemolysis
Other Comments:	
Clinical Significance:	A wide range of disease entities alters AST (SGOT), with origin from many organs. When an increased AST is from the liver, it is more likely to relate to disease of the hepatocyte. Other enzymes, including alkaline phosphatase and GGT, are more sensitive indicators of biliary obstruction.