

Magnesium

Acceptable Tube Types



Alternate Name:	Mg
Performing Lab:	New Hanover and Cape Fear
Specimen Container:	Yellow serum separator tube, or green 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:	1.8 – 2.4 mg/dL
Critical Value:	< 1.3 mg/dL or > 5.0 mg/dL (non-OB)
CPT Code:	83735
Testing Methodology:	Endpoint
Causes for Specimen Rejection:	Improper labeling
Other Comments:	
Clinical Significance:	Magnesium measurements are used in the diagnosis and treatment of hypomagnesemia (abnormally low plasma levels of magnesium) and hypermagnesemia (abnormally high plasma levels of magnesium). Magnesium is decreased in chronic nephritis, acute pancreatitis, and alcoholic cirrhosis; and after prolonged parenteral administration. It is increased in acute or chronic renal failure and addison's disease.