BMC

Performing Location(s)

BMC

Specimen Type

Serum

Preferred Container

3 Gold top tubes

Alternate Container

1 Gold top tube and 2 Red top tube or 2 Gold top tubes and 1 Red top tube 1 Green for PTH only

Minimum Volume to Submit for Testing

2 mL serum

Storage Requirements

Refrigerate the centrifuged specimen if testing cannot be completed within 8 hours of collection.

Aliquot and freeze if testing cannot be completed within 48 hours of collection.

Refrigerate the plastic aliquot tube containing the serum for the Total Calcium

Refrigerate the centrifuged, gold top tube containing the serum for the Ionized Calcium.

Transportation Needs

Deliver specimen to laboratory within 1 hour of collection if unspun.

If not possible see "storage Requirements".

Does not need to be sent from outreach sites frozen, can be sent spun and refrigerated in Gold Top tube.

Transport plastic aliquot containing serum for Total Calcium refrigerated

Transport centrifuged, tube for Ionized Calcium refrigerated

Causes for Rejection

Less than 50% draw for vacutainer tubes

Mislabeled or unlabeled specimen

Red top not spun and separated from cells within 2 hours of collection

Gold top tube not spun within 2 hours of collection

Serum > 48 hours refrigerated for PTH testing

Specimen > 8 hours at room temperature for PTH testing

Plasma > 8 hours room temp

Plasma > 48 hours refrigerated

> 6 months frozen

NaF

See Ionized Calcium for specific rejections

 $\begin{array}{l} Hemolysis > 500 \; mg/dL \\ Lipemia > 3000 \; mg/dL \end{array}$

Reference Values

PTH, Intact Reference Range				
Population Units Reference Range		Reference Range		
> 18 years	pg/mL	12.0-88.0		

Total Calcium Reference Ranges							
Population	Units	Reference Range	High Critical Value	Low Critical Value			
Less than 1 week	mg/dL	7.0 - 12.0	13.0	6.0			
General (> 1 week)	mg/dL	8.6 - 10.3	13.0	6.0			

Ionized Calcium Reference Ranges							
Population	Units	Reference Range	High Critical Value	Low Critical Value			
All Populations	mmol/L	1.05-1.35	1.63	< 0.75			

Available STAT

No

Methodology

Total Calcium: Beckman AU/Dx Series Ionized Calcium: Ion specific electrode PTH, Intact: Beckman AU/Dx Series

CPT Code

83970, 82310, 82330