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REGIONAL PATHOLOGY SERVICES
DEPARTMENT OF PATHOLOGY AND MICROBIOLOGY
www.reglab.org

Heparin Quantitative Assay

This test is for the measurement of heparin-mediated anti-Xa activity. The assay is intended for dosage management of both low molecular weight (LMWH) and unfractionated heparin (UFH) therapy and will replace the current low molecular weight heparin assay. The normal reference interval for the heparin assay is shown below and is identical for both low molecular weight and unfractionated heparin (i.e., no heparin detected). The target therapeutic range for UFH is 0.3-0.7 IU/mL. Target therapeutic ranges for LMWH will vary by manufacturer and pharmacology consultation is recommended.

TEST METHOD

Chromogenic, Diagnostica Stago coagulation instrument

PERFORMED

Daily, random access.

REPORTED

Same Day

SPECIMEN REQUIRED

One 3 mL or 5 mL sodium citrate (Light Blue) tube. Tube must be completely full and mix by inversion.

Two 0.5 mL aliquots frozen platelet poor citrated plasma minimum.

SPECIMEN TRANSPORT

Refrigerate the whole blood. If sample not transported to the lab within 4 hours, prepare platelet poor citrated plasma and freeze plasma in two 0.5 mL aliquots.

UNACCEPTABLE CONDITIONS

Clotted or grossly hemolyzed samples.

REFERENCE INTERVAL

Heparin Quantitative Assay <0.10 IU/mL