

Test Update: Stability and Storage Criteria Broadened for Serum Metals Testing

December 30, 2021

Dear Regional Pathology Services Clients,

Effective January 1, 2022, the Nebraska Public Health Laboratory (NPHL) will expand the time and temperature requirements associated with the quantitative detection of zinc, copper, and selenium in serum. This expansion will allow for the submittal of ambient, refrigerated, or frozen specimens collected within the previous 28 days. Previously, only frozen specimens were accepted for analysis. All other testing components will remain the same and there are no changes to the testing platform and no anticipated effect on the turn-around-times.

Specimen source(s):

-0.5 mL serum separated from venous collection made in Royal Blue (no additive) tube

-Following collection, invert tube 8-10 times and allow blood to clot for at least 30-40 minutes, but not longer than 60 minutes. Centrifuge for 10 minutes at 2400rpm and then transfer the serum into polyethylene or metal free tube.

NOTE: Hemolysis has the potential to affect metal ion concentration. The 60-minute time to centrifugation listed above is the ideal situation. Waiting longer to centrifuge can cause an increase in hemolysis and affect metal ion concentration. Grossly hemolyzed specimens will be rejected

-Reference Range:

Zinc: 60 - 120 µg/dL

Copper: 80 - 155 µg/dL

Selenium: 23 – 190 µg/L

Test Code: ZINCS, CUBLD, SELB

If you have any questions about the interface build please contact **Interface**

Support: rpsinterfacesupport@unmc.edu.

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