HOTLINE: Effective June 3, 2019

0098819 Melanocyte Stimulation Hormone, Alpha (a-MSH) MSH ALPHA

Performed: Varies
Reported: 10-13 days

Specimen Required:

- **Patient Prep:** Patient should not be on any steroid, ACTH, or hypertension medication, if possible, for at least 48 hours prior to specimen collection. Morning fasting specimens are preferred.
- **Collect:** Lavender (K₂ or K₃ EDTA) or pink (K₂EDTA).
- **Specimen Preparation:** Separate from cells ASAP or within 2 hours of collection. Transfer 3 mL plasma to an ARUP Standard Transport Tube. (Min. 1 mL) Freeze immediately.
- **Storage/Transport Temperature:** CRITICAL FROZEN. Separate specimens must be submitted when multiple tests are ordered.
- **Stability (collection to initiation of testing):** Ambient: Unacceptable; Refrigerated: 24 hours; Frozen: 1 month