

**TEST CHANGE**

Copper, Liver

0020694, CU-LIVER

**Specimen Requirements:**

**Patient Preparation:**

**Collect:** Liver tissue obtained with an 18 gauge needle.

**Specimen Preparation:** Transport at least a 1 cm long specimen. Tissue can be fresh, paraffin-embedded, or dried. Also acceptable: Formalin-fixed. Specimens other than paraffin-embedded should be stored and transported in a metal-free container such as a royal blue (no additive).

**Transport Temperature:** Refrigerated.

**Unacceptable Conditions:** Specimens less than 0.25 mg (dry weight). Paraffin blocks that have been processed with Hollandes or other copper-containing stain.

**Remarks:**

**Stability:** Paraffin block, preserved (formalin), or dried: Ambient: Indefinitely; Refrigerated: Indefinitely; Frozen: Indefinitely  
Fresh tissue: Ambient: Unacceptable; Refrigerated: 1 week; Frozen: Indefinitely

**Methodology:** Quantitative Inductively Coupled Plasma-Mass Spectrometry (ICP-MS)

**Performed:** ~~Mon, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat~~

**Reported:** ~~3-10~~ 2-6 days

**Note:**

**CPT Codes:** 82525

**New York DOH Approval Status:** This test is New York DOH approved.

**Interpretive Data:**

Hepatic copper concentrations approach or exceed 250 µg/g in untreated Wilson disease. Elevated hepatic copper is also seen with chronic biliary obstruction and cholestatic conditions. Results inconsistent with other findings may reflect heterogeneity in hepatic copper distribution.

This test was developed and its performance characteristics determined by ARUP Laboratories. It has not been cleared or approved by the US Food and Drug Administration. This test was performed in a CLIA certified laboratory and is intended for clinical purposes.

Reference Interval:

15-55 µg/g of tissue.

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