

TEST CHANGE

Hemoglobin, Unstable

0049020, HGB UNSTAB

Specimen Requirements:

Patient Preparation:	Test results are unreliable in infants younger than 6 months of age.
Collect:	Lavender (EDTA) or pink (K2EDTA).
Specimen Preparation:	DO NOT FREEZE. Transport 5 mL whole blood. (Min: 2 mL)
Transport Temperature:	Refrigerated.
Unacceptable Conditions:	Samples more than 7 days old. Specimens collected on infants less than 6 months old. <u>Clotted or grossly hemolyzed specimens.</u>

Remarks:

Stability: Ambient: Unacceptable; Refrigerated: 7 days; Frozen: Unacceptable

Methodology: Visual Identification

Note:

CPT Codes: 83068

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

Interpretive Data:

Unstable hemoglobin disease is due to an alteration in the amino acid sequence involved in the interface between the alpha and beta chains of the hemoglobin molecule. These alterations significantly change the structure of the molecule resulting in denaturation and precipitation of globin chains.

The Unstable Hemoglobin assay is a qualitative test that does not identify the variant when present. Additional evaluation is suggested for positive tests (Hemoglobin Evaluation by HPLC with Reflex to Electrophoresis and/or RBC Solubility, ARUP test 3017101). False positive results can occur in specimens with high hemoglobin F levels (infants less than 6 months old) and specimens tested beyond 7 days from draw time.

Reference Interval:

Refer to report **Negative**