

TEST CHANGE

Melanocyte Stimulation Hormone, Alpha (a-MSH)

0098819, MSH ALPHA

Specimen Requirements:

Patient Preparation: 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 K3EDTA) or pink (K2EDTA). New York State Clients: Lavender (K2EDTA).

Specimen Preparation: Separate from cells ASAP or within 2 hours of collection. Transfer 3 mL plasma to an ARUP [standard transport tube](#). ~~Standard Transport Tube~~. (Min. 1 mL) Freeze immediately. New York State Clients: Collect in a [prechilled](#) ~~pre-chilled~~ tube. Remove the cap from the tube and add 0.25 mL Trasylol to the whole blood. Recap the tube and invert several times. Separate from cells and freeze. Test is not performed at ARUP; separate specimens must be submitted when multiple tests are ordered.

Transport Temperature: CRITICAL FROZEN.

Unacceptable Conditions:

Remarks:

Stability: Ambient: Unacceptable; Refrigerated: 24 hours; Frozen: 1 month

Methodology: Quantitative Radioimmunoassay [\(RIA\)](#)

Performed: Varies

Reported: [15-20](#) ~~10-13~~ days

Note:

CPT Codes: 83519

New York DOH Approval Status: Specimens from New York clients will be sent out to a New York DOH approved laboratory, if possible.

Interpretive Data:

Reference Interval:

By report



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Effective Date: **August 5, 2024**