

0099007

Antimony, Blood

ANT B

Specimen Required: Patient Prep: Diet, medication, and nutritional supplements may introduce interfering substances. Patient should be encouraged to discontinue nutritional supplements, vitamins, minerals, and non-essential over-the-counter medications (upon the advice of their physician).

Collect: Glass BD Trace Element Free (K₂EDTA or Na₂EDTA) Tube.

Specimen Preparation: Transport whole blood in the original collection tube. (Min: 0.5 mL)

Storage/Transport Temperature: Room temperature. Also acceptable: Refrigerated.

Unacceptable Conditions: Specimens collected in containers other than specified. Specimens transported in containers other than specified. Heparin anticoagulant. Clotted specimens.

Stability (collection to initiation of testing): Ambient: Indefinitely; Refrigerated: Indefinitely; Frozen: Unacceptable

Reference Interval: Less than or equal to 3.0 µg/L

Interpretive Data:

Elevated results may be due to skin or collection-related contamination, including the use of a noncertified antimony-free collection tubes (including plastic BD Vacutainer Trace Element Tubes) or transport tube. If contamination concerns exist due to elevated levels of blood antimony, confirmation with a second specimen collected in a certified antimony-free tube is recommended.

Blood antimony levels predominantly reflect recent exposure and are most useful in the diagnosis of acute poisoning. Blood concentrations in unexposed individuals rarely exceed 3 µg/L. The form of antimony greatly influences distribution and elimination. Trivalent antimony readily enters red blood cells, has an extended half-life on the order of weeks to months, and is eliminated predominantly through the bile. Pentavalent antimony resides in the plasma, has a relatively short half-life on the order of hours to days, and is eliminated predominantly through the kidneys. Reported symptoms after toxic antimony exposure vary based upon route of exposure, duration and antimony source and may include abdominal pain, dyspnea, nausea, vomiting, dermatitis and eye irritation. Clinical presentation is similar to that of inorganic arsenic exposure.

See Compliance Statement B: www.aruplab.com/CS

Note: BD Plastic Royal Blue (Na₂EDTA/K₂EDTA) collection tubes are not certified to be antimony-free.