

**TEST CHANGE**

**Phosphatidylethanol (PEth), Whole Blood, Quantitative**

3002598, PETH

**Specimen Requirements:**

**Patient Preparation:**

**Collect:** Lavender (K2 or K3 EDTA), Pink (K2EDTA), Green (lithium heparin), or Gray (potassium oxalate).

**Specimen Preparation:** Transport 1 mL whole blood. (Min: 0.5 mL)

**Transport Temperature:** Refrigerated. Also acceptable: Frozen.

**Unacceptable Conditions:** Gel separator tubes, Plain Red, light blue (citrate), or yellow (SPS or ACD solution).

**Remarks:**

**Stability:** Ambient: 2 hours; Refrigerated: 2 weeks; Frozen: 1 month (-20 Degrees C)

**Methodology:** Quantitative Liquid Chromatography-Tandem Mass Spectrometry

**Performed:** Sun-Sat

**Reported:** 1-4 days

**Note:**

**CPT Codes:** 80321 (Alt code: G0480)

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

**Interpretive Data:**

Phosphatidylethanol (PEth) is a group of phospholipids formed in the presence of ethanol, phospholipase D and phosphatidylcholine. PEth is known to be a direct alcohol biomarker. The predominant PEth homologues are PEth 16:0/18:1 (POPEth) and PEth 16:0/18:2 (PLPEth), which account for 37-46% and 26-28% of the total PEth homologues, respectively. PEth is incorporated into the phospholipid membrane of red blood cells and has a general half-life of 4 - 10 days and a window of detection of 2 - 4 weeks. However, the window of detection is longer in individuals who chronically or excessively consume alcohol. Serial monitoring of PEth may be helpful in monitoring alcohol abstinence over time. PEth results should be interpreted in the context of the patient's clinical and behavioral history. Patients with advanced liver disease may have falsely elevated PEth concentrations (Nguyen VL et al 2018, Alcoholism Clinical & Experimental Research).

**Reference Interval:**

Effective September 8, 2020

By Report

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**HOTLINE NOTE:** There is a component change associated with this test. One or more components have been added or removed. Refer to the Hotline Test Mix for interface build information.