

Bicarbonate



Alternate Name:	HCO ₃	
Performing Lab:	New Hanover and Cape Fear	
Specimen Container:	Heparinized syringe or capillary tube or Green top on ice (no gel)	
Minimum Volume Required:	0.5 mL	
Testing Availability	Routine:	24 hours/day
	Stat:	Yes
Turnaround Time:	Routine: 4 hours Stat: < 1 hour	
Special Handling:	All specimens should be on ice and delivered to the laboratory immediately.	
Patient Preparation:	None	
Specimen Stability:		
Reference Range:		
	HCO₃ arterial:	22 – 26 mmol/L
	Venous:	24 – 28 mmol/L
Critical Value:	< 10 mmol/L or > 40 mmol/L	
CPT Code:	82374	
Testing Methodology:	Calculated by instrument	
Causes for Specimen Rejection:	Improper labeling Presence of large air bubble Specimen not on ice Specimen clotted	
Other Comments:		
Clinical Significance:	N/A	