

Lactic Acid ED Lab



Alternate Name:	Lactate
Performing Lab:	New Hanover ED Lab and Cape Fear Lab
Specimen Container:	Dark Green top tube (lithium heparin)
Minimum Volume Required:	250 uL
Testing Availability	Routine: 24 hours/day Stat: Yes
Turnaround Time:	Stat: < 1 hour
Special Handling:	Transport on ice if testing is not to be performed immediately
Specimen Stability:	30 minutes
Reference Range:	0.4 – 2.0 mmol/L
Critical Value:	> 4.0 mmol/L
CPT Code:	83605
Testing Methodology:	Electrochemical electrodes and Spectrometer
Causes for Specimen Rejection:	Improper labeling Hemolysis Specimen age
Clinical Significance:	Lactic acid is the endproduct of the anaerobic metabolism of glucose. The blood lactic acid concentration is affected by its production in muscle cells and erythrocytes and its rate of metabolism in the liver. During exercise, blood lactate can increase up to ten times of normal levels.