



Pathology and Laboratory Medicine

PROTOPORPHYRIN, WHOLE BLOOD

Orderable - PORERC

Turnaround Time: 14 days

Alternate Name(s):

Free protoporphyrin
Erythrocyte protoporphyrin



Laboratory: Core Lab



Requisition:GENERAL LABORATORY
REQUISITION



Method of Analysis: Fluorescence Spectrophotometry



Test Schedule: Referred out Monday-Thursday



Adult	Pediatric
2 x 4 mL Lavender	2-10 years: 2 x 2 mL Lavender
(EDTA) top Vacutainer	(EDTA) top Vacutainer tubes
tubes	
Red, Gold, or Light Green (Li-heparin) top tubes	
are NOT acceptable.	

Collection Information:

Careset includes 1 Lavender top tube for CBC (hematocrit) and 1 Lavender top tube for protoporphyrin test. Blood for protoporphyrin test should be collected in a foil-covered tube to protect from light.

Minimum volume of whole blood required for protoporphyrin test is 2 mL for adult or pediatric samples.



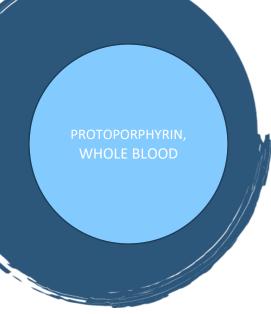
Referred Out Location: In-Common Laboratories

Reference Ranges:

Free protoporphyrin	
0.4-1.0 μmol/L Ercs	
Reference interval is for adults only and is not available	
for individuals 17 years of age or younger.	

Interpretive Comments:

Measurement of free erythrocyte protoporphyrins (FEP) includes protoporphyrin IX and zinc protoporphyrin. Zinc protoporphyrin is elevated in iron deficiency and lead







Pathology and Laboratory Medicine

poisoning.

Protoporphyrin IX is elevated in erythrocytic protoporphyria. FEP >3 times the upper limit of normal is suggestive of erythrocytic protoporphyria.

Special Processing:

Hematocrit must be sent to ICL with sample to allow calculation of result.

Keep specimen protected from light.

Storage and Shipment:

Store and ship tube for protoporphyrin test frozen and protected from light.