ALCOHOL FRACTIONATION (BY GAS CHROMATOGRAPHY)



Pathology and Laboratory Medicine

# **Orderable - VOL**

Turn Around Time: 4 hours

STAT: 1 hour

# Alternate Name(s):

Volatile Screen Methanol Isopropanol Acetone Ethanol



Laboratory: Core Lab



Requisition: GENERAL LABORATORY REQUISITION

Ä

Method of Analysis: Gas Liquid Chromatography

Test Schedule: As required

#### Specimen:

5 mL Gold top Vacutainer tube. Lithium Heparin or EDTA plasma is also acceptable.

Five mL of blood collected in a Gold top Vacutainer tube is preferred. Plasma sample is acceptable. There are no restrictions on types of anticoagulants or preservatives used. Samples

<4 hours are ideal however add-on testing is allowable up to 7 days when tightly capped and refrigerated.</p>

## **Collection Information:**

Volatile: keep tube tightly sealed.

Do <u>not</u> use alcohol swab for venipuncture.

Volatile screen is available STAT without authorization.

## **Reference Ranges:**

Toxic Levels	
Methanol:	>6 mmol/L
Isopropanol:	>7 mmol/L
Acetone:	>6.9 mmol/L
Ethanol:	>33 mmol/L

#### **Interpretive Comments:**

Alcohol fractionations are performed when requested. Methanol, Isopropanol, and



Pathology and Laboratory Medicine

Acetone are identified and quantitated by Gas Liquid Chromatography. Routine Ethanol is quantified by an enzymatic assay.

Ethanol quantitation by Gas Liquid Chromatography is available with Biochemist approval.

# **Special Processing:**

#### For SRA staff when a sample is received at UH:

UH SRA: Please call VH SRA when a sample is received. VH SRA: Please alert technologist that a sample is on the way

#### **Comments:**

*CRITICAL VALUE to be phoned to Nurse or Physician immediately:* all positive results.

