**THIOCYANATE, SERUM/PLASMA**

**Orderable - THIO**

**Turn Around Time: 1 week**

**Alternate Name(s):**
Sulfocyanate  
Nitroprusside

**Specimen:**

| 6 mL Red top Vacutainer tube or 4 mL Lavender EDTA Vacutainer tube |

**Collection Information:**

*Avoid gel-separator tubes*

Minimum volume of serum required is 1.5 mL.

Separate serum or plasma and refrigerate.

**Reference Ranges:**

<table>
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<th>Therapeutic:</th>
<th>Toxic:</th>
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<td>Less than 0.5 mmol/L</td>
<td>Greater than 1.7 mmol/L</td>
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**Interpretive Comments:**

Nitroprusside (Nipride) is used in the management of hypertensive emergencies and is metabolized to thiocyanate which is in turn excreted by the kidney. Monitoring of thiocyanate levels is critical in patients with renal dysfunction.

May be used as a marker for cyanide poisoning.

**Critical Information Required:**
Patient's medication.

**Specimen Stability:**

Ambient: 72 hours  
Refrigerated: 14 days  
Frozen: 30 days

**Storage and Shipment:**

Send sample to the lab on ice packs. Keep specimen cold.