

COMPLEMENT
C4,
PLASMA

Orderable - C₄ / C₃C₄

Turn Around Time: 4 hours

Alternate Name(s):

C4

Specimen:

Adult	Pediatric
4.5 mL Green (Lithium Heparin) top Vacutainer	0-2 years: 0.5 mL Light Green top (Li-Heparin) Microtainer 2-10 years: 3 mL Light Green top (Li-Heparin) Vacutainer tube
Serum from a 5 mL Gold top or 6 mL Red top is also acceptable.	

Collection Information:

Fasting specimen preferred.

Collect blood aseptically in a Vacutainer tube.

Avoid hemolysis.

Reference Ranges:

0.10-0.40 g/L

Interpretive Comments:

This test quantitates the amount of C4 in the plasma but does not test C4 function. Decreased levels are associated with complement classical pathway activation, decreased or dysfunctional C1 esterase inhibitor or genetic deficiency. Major clinical manifestations include SLE, glomerulonephritis, and pyogenic infections.



Laboratory:
Core Lab




Requisition:
GENERAL LABORATORY
REQUISITION



Method of Analysis:
Immunoturbidimetric
assay



Test Schedule:
Daily



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Comments:

Normally run in conjunction with C3

C4 degrades in storage.

Turbidimetric assays not suitable for measurement of highly lipemic or hemolytic samples or samples containing high levels of circulating immune complexes.

Specimen Stability:

Specimen is stable for 2 days at 20-25°C and 8 days at 4-8°C.