

Beta-2 Transferrin: Detection of Spinal Fluid in Other Body Fluid

Test ID: BETA2

Explanation:

On the effective date this test will become obsolete due to the availability of an automated methodology for Beta-Trace Protein.

Recommended Alternative Test:

Beta-Trace Protein, Body Fluid

Test ID: BTPBF

Useful for:

Determining the presence of cerebrospinal fluid in body fluids

Methods:

Nephelometry

Reference Values:

Beta-trace protein <5 mg/L are negative for cerebrospinal fluid

Beta-trace protein concentrations of 5-7 mg/L are indeterminate for presence of cerebrospinal fluid

Beta-trace protein >7 mg/L are consistent with the presence of cerebrospinal fluid

Specimen Requirements:

Preferred Collection Container/Tube: Sterile container, syringe (with needle removed), test tube

Acceptable Collection Container/Tube: Plain cotton swab, pledget, or gauze

Specimen Volume: 1 mL

Collection Instructions:

1. If submitting a syringe, remove needle. Add cap to end of syringe.
2. If preferred collection is not feasible, specimen may be collected using a plain cotton swab, pledget, or gauze.
 - a. For gauze: circle area on the gauze where specimen was collected.

- b. Swab, pledget, or gauze: place in a small container (plain test tube or sterile container).
- 3. Do not collect specimen with a culture swab.
- 4. Do not add any additional liquid other than source to the swab or gauze.
- 5. Do not collect or send swab or gauze specimens in containers with additional liquids or additives.

Minimum Volume: 0.5 mL

Specimen Stability Information:

Specimen Type	Temperature	Time
Body Fluid	Refrigerated (preferred)	14 days
	Ambient	14 days
	Frozen	30 days

Cautions:

Interferences by rheumatoid factors are generally suppressed by the use of the N BTP (beta trace protein) Supplementary Reagent.

Low volume of cerebrospinal fluid specimens containing nasal or ear secretions as well as loss of fluid due to dry effects in tamponades may reduce the beta trace protein recovery.

CPT Code:

83883

Day(s) Performed: Monday through Sunday

Report Available: 1 to 3 days

Questions

Contact Amy Ennis, Laboratory Resource Coordinator at 800-533-1710.