

Reporting Title: Cobalt, S
Performing Location: Rochester

Ordering Guidance:
The US Food and Drug Administration recommended test for monitoring cobalt in patients with metal-on-metal implants is COWB / Cobalt, Blood.

This test should not be ordered to assess vitamin B12 activity. For that assessment see B12 / Vitamin B12 Assay, Serum or ACASM / Pernicious Anemia Cascade, Serum.

Specimen Requirements:
Patient Preparation: High concentrations of gadolinium and iodine are known to interfere with most metal tests. If either gadolinium- or iodine-containing contrast media has been administered, a specimen should not be collected for 96 hours.
Supplies: Metal Free Specimen Vial (T173)
Collection Container/Tube: Plain, royal blue-top Vacutainer plastic trace element blood collection tube
Submission Container/Tube: 7-mL Mayo metal-free, screw-capped, polypropylene vial
Specimen Volume: 0.5 mL
Collection Instructions:
1. Allow the specimen to clot for 30 minutes; then centrifuge the specimen to separate serum from the cellular fraction.
2. Remove the stopper. Carefully pour specimen into a Mayo metal-free, polypropylene vial, avoiding transfer of the cellular components of blood. **Do not** insert a pipet into the serum to accomplish transfer, and **do not** ream the specimen with a wooden stick to assist with serum transfer.
3. See [Metals Analysis Specimen Collection and Transport](#) for complete instructions.

Specimen Type	Temperature	Time	Special Container
Serum	Refrigerated (preferred)	28 days	METAL FREE
	Ambient	28 days	METAL FREE
	Frozen	28 days	METAL FREE

Result Codes:

Result ID	Reporting Name	Type	Unit	LOINC®
80084	Cobalt, S	Numeric	ng/mL	5627-5

LOINC® and CPT codes are provided by the performing laboratory.

Supplemental Report:
No

CPT Code Information:
83018

Reference Values:

<1.0 ng/mL
<10.0 ng/mL (Metal-on-metal implant)
Reference values apply to all ages.

The reported unit of measurement for cobalt of ng/mL is equivalent to mcg/L.