

Reporting Title: Mercaptopurine (6-MP, Purinethol)  
Performing Location: Medtox Laboratories, Inc.

Specimen Requirements:  
Submit only 1 of the following specimens:

- Plasma

Draw blood in a green-top (sodium heparin) tube(s), **plasma gel tube is not acceptable**. Spin down and send 2 mL sodium heparin plasma refrigerated in a plastic vial.
- Serum

Draw blood in a plain, red-top tube(s), **serum gel tube is not acceptable**. Spin down and send 2 mL of serum refrigerated in a plastic vial.

| Specimen Type | Temperature              | Time     | Special Container |
|---------------|--------------------------|----------|-------------------|
| Varies        | Refrigerated (preferred) | 7 days   |                   |
|               | Frozen                   | 180 days |                   |
|               | Ambient                  | 72 hours |                   |

Result Codes:

| Result ID | Reporting Name   | Type         | Unit | LOINC®  |
|-----------|------------------|--------------|------|---------|
| Z1190     | 6-Mercaptopurine | Alphanumeric |      | 11242-5 |

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

Supplemental Report:  
No

CPT Code Information:  
80299

Reference Values:  
Units:      ng/mL

Mercaptopurine may be administered as an antineoplastic or may be present as a metabolite of the immunosuppressant drug azathioprine. Therapeutic and toxic ranges have not been established. Usual therapeutic doses of either mercaptopurine or azathioprine produce 6-mercaptopurine serum concentrations of less than 1000 ng/mL.