

## **Test Definition: PCAG**

Protein C Antigen, Plasma

**Reporting Title:** Protein C Ag, P **Performing Location:** Rochester

## **Ordering Guidance:**

Coagulation testing is highly complex, often requiring the performance of multiple assays and correlation with clinical information. For that reason, consider ordering AATHR / Thrombophilia Profile, Plasma and Whole Blood.

Testing of protein C functional activity (CFX / Protein C Activity, Plasma) is recommended for initial laboratory evaluation of patients suspected of having congenital protein C deficiency (personal or family history of thrombotic diathesis).

## **Necessary Information:**

If the patient is being treated with Coumadin (warfarin), this should be noted as Coumadin will lower protein C.

#### **Specimen Requirements:**

**Specimen Type:** Platelet-poor plasma **Patient Preparation:** Fasting preferred

**Collection Container/Tube:** Light-blue top (3.2% sodium citrate) **Submission Container/Tube:** Plastic vial (polypropylene preferred)

Specimen Volume: 1 mL

Specimen Stability Information: Frozen 2 years

#### **Collection Instructions:**

- 1. For complete instructions, see Coagulation Guidelines for Specimen Handling and Processing.
- 2. Centrifuge, transfer all plasma into a plastic vial, and centrifuge plasma again.
- 3. Aliquot plasma into a plastic vial leaving 0.25 mL in the bottom of centrifuged vial.
- 4. Freeze plasma immediately (no longer than 4 hours after collection) at -20 degrees C or ideally, at or below -40 degrees C.

#### **Additional Information:**

- 1. Double-centrifuged specimen is critical for accurate results as platelet contamination may cause spurious results.
- 2. Each coagulation assay requested should have its own vial.

#### Forms:

If not ordering electronically, complete, print, and send a Coagulation Test Request (T753) with the specimen.

Specimen Type	Temperature	Time	Special Container
Plasma Na Cit	Frozen		

#### **Result Codes:**

Result ID	Reporting Name	Туре	Unit	LOINC®
9127	Protein C Ag, P	Numeric	%	27820-0

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

## **Supplemental Report:**



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No

## **CPT Code Information:**

85302

## **Reference Values:**

Adults: 72%-160%

Normal, full-term newborn infants or healthy premature infants may have decreased levels of protein C antigen (15%-50%), which may not reach adult levels until later in childhood or early adolescence.\*

\*See Pediatric Hemostasis References section in Coagulation Guidelines for Specimen Handling and Processing.