

Overview

Method Name

High-Performance Liquid Chromatography/Tandem Mass Spectrometry (LC-MS/MS)

NY State Available

Yes

Specimen

Specimen Type

Serum Red

Specimen Required

\*\*\*Must submit one specimen per order. Specimens cannot be shared between multiple orders.\*\*\*

Specimen Type: Serum

Collection Container/Tube: Red top

Submission Container/Tube: Plastic vial

Specimen Volume: 1 mL

Collection Instructions:

1. Draw blood in a plain, red-top tube(s). Serum gel tube is not acceptable.
2. Centrifuge and send 1 mL of serum frozen in a preservative-free plastic vial. Specimen must be frozen immediately, or results will be compromised.

Specimen Minimum Volume

0.5 mL

Reject Due To

Other	Polymer gel separation tube (SST or PST)
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Specimen Stability Information

Specimen Type	Temperature	Time	Special Container
Serum Red	Frozen	6 days	

Clinical & Interpretive

Reference Values

Reporting limit determined each analysis.

Levodopa  
Units: mcg/mL

Carbidopa  
Units: mcg/mL

### Interpretation

**Levodopa**  
The target plasma concentration of levodopa in Parkinsonian patients is 2 +/- 0.5 mcg/mL. The average peak plasma levodopa concentration following a single oral dose of Sinemet containing 200 mg levodopa was 1.2 mcg/mL at 0.5 hours for normal release and 3.3 mcg/mL at 2 hours for controlled release. At steady-state, the average trough plasma levodopa concentration following oral Sinemet containing 200 mg levodopa was 0.07 mcg/mL for normal release and 0.16 mcg/mL for controlled release.

**Carbidopa**  
Following a single oral dose of 250 mg levodopa and 25 mg carbidopa, peak plasma concentrations of carbidopa averaged 0.11 mcg/mL at 2.9 hours post dose. Carbidopa concentrations can decrease rapidly after collection unless flash frozen with dry ice.

## Performance

**PDF Report**  
No

**Day(s) Performed**  
Monday - Sunday

**Report Available**  
12 to 14 days

**Performing Laboratory Location**  
NMS Labs

## Fees & Codes

- Fees**
- Authorized users can sign in to [Test Prices](#) for detailed fee information.
  - Clients without access to Test Prices can contact [Customer Service](#) 24 hours a day, seven days a week.
  - Prospective clients should contact their account representative. For assistance, contact [Customer Service](#).

### Test Classification

This test was developed and its performance characteristics determined by NMS Labs. It has not been cleared or approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.

CPT Code Information

80299

LOINC® Information

Test ID	Test Order Name	Order LOINC® Value
FSINS	Sinemet, Serum	Not Provided

Result ID	Test Result Name	Result LOINC® Value
Z3535	Levodopa	9385-6
Z3536	Carbidopa	9328-6