



# Test Definition: MPQU

Monoclonal Protein Quantitation, 24 Hour,  
Urine

## Overview

### Useful For

Monitoring patients with monoclonal gammopathies using 24-hour urine collections

### Profile Information

Test Id	Reporting Name	Available Separately	Always Performed
PTU3	Protein, Total, 24 HR, U	Yes, (Order PTU)	Yes
PEU	Protein Electrophoresis, 24 Hr, U	No	Yes

### Reflex Tests

Test Id	Reporting Name	Available Separately	Always Performed
MPTU	M-protein Mass-Fix, 24 HR, U	No	No

### Testing Algorithm

Urine protein electrophoresis alone is not considered an adequate screening for monoclonal gammopathies.

If a discrete electrophoresis band is identified, the laboratory will evaluate the urine protein electrophoresis and, if necessary, perform urine M-protein isotyping by MASSFIX at an additional charge.

### Special Instructions

- [Urine Preservatives-Collection and Transportation for 24-Hour Urine Specimens](#)
- [Amyloidosis: Laboratory Approach to Diagnosis](#)
- [Multiple Myeloma: Laboratory Screening](#)

### Method Name

PTU3: Turbidimetry

PEU: Agarose Gel Electrophoresis

MPTU: Matrix-Assisted Laser Desorption/Ionization Time-of-Flight Mass Spectrometry (MALDI-TOF MS)

### NY State Available

Yes

## Specimen

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**Specimen Type**

Urine

**Shipping Instructions**

Refrigerate specimen during collection and send refrigerated.

**Necessary Information****24-Hour volume (in milliliters) is required.****Specimen Required****Supplies:** Urine Container, 60 mL (T313)**Submission Container/Tube:** Plastic, 60-mL urine bottle**Specimen Volume:** 50 mL**Collection Instructions:**

1. Collect urine for 24 hours and refrigerate during collection.
2. Aliquot between 30 mL and 50 mL urine into plastic, 60-mL urine bottle.

**Additional Information:** See [Urine Preservatives-Collection and Transportation for 24-Hour Urine Specimens](#) for multiple collections.**Forms**[If not ordering electronically, complete, print, and send a Renal Diagnostics Test Request](#) (T830) with the specimen.**Urine Preservative Collection Options****Preservatives must be added or temperature controls applied within 4 hours of completion of the collection.**

Ambient (no additive)	OK
Refrigerate (no additive)	Preferred
Frozen (no additive)	OK
50% Acetic Acid	No
Boric Acid	No
Diazolidinyl Urea	OK
6M Hydrochloric Acid	No
6M Nitric Acid	No
Sodium Carbonate	No
Toluene	No

**Specimen Minimum Volume**

30 mL

**Reject Due To**

All specimens will be evaluated at Mayo Clinic Laboratories for test suitability

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**Specimen Stability Information**

Specimen Type	Temperature	Time	Special Container
Urine	Refrigerated (preferred)	14 days	
	Ambient	24 hours	
	Frozen	5 days	

**Clinical & Interpretive****Clinical Information**

Urine proteins can be grouped into 5 fractions by protein electrophoresis:

- Albumin
- Alpha-1
- Alpha-2
- Beta-globulin
- Gamma-globulin

One or more quantifiable monoclonal proteins may be present and reported as M spike

The urine total protein concentration, the electrophoretic pattern, and the presence of a monoclonal immunoglobulin light chain may be characteristic of monoclonal gammopathies such as multiple myeloma, primary systemic amyloidosis, and light chain deposition disease.

The following algorithms are available:

[-Amyloidosis: Laboratory Approach to the Diagnosis](#)

[-Multiple Myeloma: Laboratory Screening](#)

**Reference Values**

PROTEIN, TOTAL

<229 mg/24 h

Reference values have not been established for patients who are younger than 18 years.

ELECTROPHORESIS, PROTEIN

The following fractions, if present, will be reported as mg/24 h:

- Albumin
- Alpha-1-globulin
- Alpha-2-globulin
- Beta-globulin
- Gamma-globulin

MASSFIX M-PROTEIN ISOTYPE

M-protein Isotype MS:

No monoclonal protein detected

Flag M-protein Isotype MS:  
Negative

**Interpretation**

The presence of a monoclonal immunoglobulin light chain in the urine is seen in multiple myeloma, macroglobulinemia, primary systemic amyloidosis and light-chain deposition disease, monoclonal gammopathy of undetermined significance, and idiopathic Bence Jones proteinuria. The presence of a monoclonal light chain can produce kidney insufficiency, may be deposited as amyloid fibrils, may damage the proximal tubes producing Fanconi syndrome, or light chains may deposit in the glomerulus and cause light-chain deposition disease.

Heavy chain fragments as well as light chains may be seen in the urine of patients with multiple myeloma or amyloidosis.

**Cautions**

Patients suspected of having a monoclonal gammopathy may have a normal urine protein electrophoretic pattern, and these patients should have M-protein isotyping performed.

Monoclonal gammopathies are rarely seen in patients younger than 30 years.

Hemolysis may cause a discrete band on protein electrophoresis, which will be negative on M-protein isotyping.

Penicillin may split the albumin band.

Radiographic agents may produce an uninterpretable pattern.

**Clinical Reference**

1. Abraham RS, Barnidge DR. Protein analysis in the clinical immunology laboratory. In: Detrick BD, Hamilton RG, Schmitz JL eds. Manual of Molecular and Clinical Laboratory Immunology. 8th ed. 2016:chap 4
2. Sykes E, Posey Y. Immunochemical characterization of immunoglobulins in serum, urine, and cerebrospinal fluid. In: Detrick B, Hamilton RG, Schmitz JL, eds. Molecular and Clinical Laboratory Immunology. 8th ed. Wiley; 2016:chap 9

**Performance****Method Description**

Total Protein:

The sample is preincubated in an alkaline solution containing EDTA, which denatures the protein and eliminates interference from magnesium ions. Benzethonium chloride is then added, producing turbidity. (Package insert: Total Protein Urine/CSF Gen.3. Roche Diagnostics; V13.0, 11/2018)

Electrophoresis:

Urine proteins are separated in an electric field according to their size, shape, and electric charge (Helena SPIFE Touch). The separation is performed on agarose gels. The proteins are visualized by staining with acid blue and the intensity of staining is quantitated by densitometry (Helena Quick Scan Touch). Multiplying by the urine protein concentration

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converts the percentage of protein in each fraction into urine concentration.(Instruction manual: SPIFE Touch. Helena Laboratories, Corp; 11/2016; package insert: SPIFE Touch SPE Pro 277. Helena Laboratories, Corp; 06/2018; Keren DF, Humphrey RL: Clinical indications and applications of serum and urine protein electrophoresis. In: Detrick BD, Hamilton RG, Schmitz JL eds. Manual of Molecular and Clinical Laboratory Immunology. 8th ed. 2016:chap 8)

**Mayo Clinic MASSFIX:**

The Mayo Clinic MASSFIX M-protein isotype by matrix-assisted laser desorption/ionization time-of-flight mass spectrometry (MALDI-TOF MS) is performed with immunoaffinity purification followed by MALDI-TOF MS analysis. For the immunoaffinity purification, patient sample is applied to 5 separate immunoaffinity resins (CaptureSelect, Life Sciences) specific to immunoglobulin G, A, M, K, and L. Unbound protein is washed away and the isolated immunoglobulins are reduced to separate the heavy and light chains subunits to be analyzed via MALDI-TOF MS. The 5 separate spectra from each patient immunopurification are overlaid and investigated for an overabundance of immunoglobulin and immunoglobulin light chain.(Milani P, Murray DL, Barnidge DR, et al. The utility of MASS-FIX to detect and monitor monoclonal proteins in the clinic. Am J Hematol. 2017;92[8]:772-779. doi:10.1002/ajh.24772)

**PDF Report**

No

**Day(s) Performed**

Monday through Friday

**Report Available**

4 to 6 days

**Specimen Retention Time**

See Individual Test IDs

**Performing Laboratory Location**

Mayo Clinic Laboratories - Rochester Superior Drive

**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 Mayo Clinic in a manner consistent with CLIA requirements. It has not been cleared or approved by the US Food and Drug Administration.

**CPT Code Information**

84156

84166  
0077U (if appropriate)

**LOINC® Information**

Test ID	Test Order Name	Order LOINC® Value
MPQU	M-protein Quantitation, 24 HR, U	101665-8

Result ID	Test Result Name	Result LOINC® Value
2833	A/G Ratio	44294-7
21446	M spike	42482-0
22307	M spike	42482-0
21447	Impression	32210-7
607970	Albumin	6941-9
607971	Alpha-1 globulin	6794-2
607972	Alpha-2 globulin	6795-9
607973	Beta globulin	94714-3
607974	Gamma globulin	94715-0
VL92	Urine Volume	3167-4
TP6	Total Protein, 24 HR, U	2889-4
TM24	Collection Duration	13362-9
CONCU	Total Protein Concentration	21482-5