MAYO CLINIC LABORATORIES

Test Definition: FPEPA

Gastric Pepsin Assay

Overview

Method Name
Enzymatic

NY State Available
No

Specimen

Specimen Type
Body Fluid

Specimen Required
Specimen Type: Body fluid
Sources: Tracheal or bronchial secretions
Container/Tube: Standard transport tube
Specimen Volume: 1 mL
Collection Instructions:
1. Collect a minimum of 1 mL tracheal or bronchial fluid.
2. Transfer to a tightly capped plastic tube and freeze immediately.
3. Ship frozen.

Specimen Minimum Volume
0.5 mL

Reject Due To
All specimens will be evaluated by the processing and performing laboratories for test suitability.

Specimen Stability Information

Specimen Type	Temperature	Time	Special Container
Body Fluid	Frozen	30 days	

Clinical & Interpretive

Clinical Information
Refer to www.nemours.org/pediatric-research/research-labs/gastroenterology-clinical.html

Reference Values

<12.5 ng/mL: Negative
12.5-100 ng/mL: Weak to moderate positive
>100 ng/mL: Strong positive

Cautions

Note: Assay normal ranges are based on normal sample or medical conditions. Samples with the following abnormal conditions might affect the results.
-Pepsin A is rapidly degraded in alkaline pH (>6.0) as pepsin is not stable at alkaline condition. Samples with pH >6 might have reduced activity, resulting in negative pepsin.
-Absence of protein content or extremely low (<0.01 mg/mL) in a sample might indicate sample over dilution during collection, which can also lead to negative pepsin.
-High protein contents (>2 mg/mL or higher) in a sample might interfere enzymatic activity, thus decrease pepsin concentration. If borderline positivity was discovered in a high protein sample, assay might be repeated by diluting sample protein to 2 mg/mL.

A negative result does not rule out a micro-aspiration event. The detection of pepsin A in the airway is determined by the time of the aspiration, the degree of the aspiration, and the pH of the aspirates in the final collected media. Results from this assay should be used in conjunction with clinical findings and other lab results.

Performance

PDF Report

No

Day(s) Performed

Monday through Thursday

Report Available

4 to 9 days

Performing Laboratory Location

Nemours Children's Health-Gastroenterology

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 Nemours GI Lab. It has not been cleared or

approved by the US Food and Drug Administration.

CPT Code Information

83986
84157
82657

LOINC® Information

Test ID	Test Order Name	Order LOINC® Value
FPEPA	Pepsin A Assay	Not Provided

Result ID	Test Result Name	Result LOINC® Value
Z3670	Specimen Type	31208-2
Z3671	pH	Not Provided
Z3672	Protein	Not Provided
Z3673	Pepsin A	Not Provided
Z3674	Interpretation	Not Provided