

Albumin, Serum

# **Overview**

#### **Useful For**

Assessing nutritional status

Aiding in the diagnosis of multiple sclerosis when used in conjunction with serum IgG, and cerebrospinal fluid IgG and albumin concentrations

#### **Method Name**

Only orderable as part of profile. For more information see: SFIG / Cerebrospinal Fluid (CSF) IgG Index Profile, Serum and Spinal Fluid.

**Photometric** 

#### **NY State Available**

Yes

# **Specimen**

# **Specimen Type**

Serum

# **Specimen Required**

Only orderable as part of profile. For more information see: SFIG / Cerebrospinal Fluid (CSF) IgG Index Profile, Serum and Spinal Fluid.

#### **Collection Container/Tube:**

**Preferred:** Serum gel **Acceptable:** Red top

Submission Container/Tube: Plastic vial

**Specimen Volume:** 1 mL **Collection Instructions:** 

- 1. Serum gel tubes should be centrifuged within 2 hours of collection.
- 2. Red-top tubes should be centrifuged, and the serum aliquoted into a plastic vial within 2 hours of collection.

#### Specimen Minimum Volume

0.5 mL

# **Reject Due To**

| Cross | Dojact |
|-------|--------|
| Gross | Reject |



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| hemolysis     |    |
|---------------|----|
| Gross lipemia | OK |
| Gross icterus | OK |

# **Specimen Stability Information**

| Specimen Type | Temperature              | Time     | Special Container |
|---------------|--------------------------|----------|-------------------|
| Serum         | Refrigerated (preferred) | 14 days  |                   |
|               | Ambient                  | 7 days   |                   |
|               | Frozen                   | 120 days |                   |

# **Clinical & Interpretive**

#### **Clinical Information**

Albumin is a carbohydrate-free protein, which constitutes 55% to 65% of total plasma protein. It maintains oncotic plasma pressure, is involved in the transport and storage of a wide variety of ligands, and is a source of endogenous amino acids. Albumin binds and solubilizes various compounds, including bilirubin, calcium, long-chain fatty acids, toxic heavy metal ions, and numerous pharmaceuticals.

Hypoalbuminemia is caused by several factors: impaired synthesis due either to liver disease (primary) or due to diminished protein intake (secondary), increased catabolism as a result of tissue damage and inflammation, malabsorption of amino acids, and increased renal excretion (eg, nephrotic syndrome).

Measurement of albumin in serum is helpful when paired with albumin measured in cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) along with total IgG in serum and CSF as an aid in evaluating multiple sclerosis and other conditions where the integrity of the blood brain barrier is reviewed. The combination of these four analytes is referred to as CSF IgG index.

#### **Reference Values**

Only orderable as part of profile. For more information see: SFIG / Cerebrospinal Fluid (CSF) IgG Index Profile, Serum and Spinal Fluid.

> or =12 months: 3500-5000 mg/dL

Reference values have not been established for patients who are <12 months of age.

#### Interpretation

Hyperalbuminemia is of little diagnostic significance except in the case of dehydration. When plasma or serum albumin values fall below 2.0 g/dL, edema is usually present.

# **Cautions**

Albumin concentration determined by the bromcresol green method may not be identical to the albumin concentration determined by electrophoresis.

#### **Clinical Reference**

1. Rifai N, Horvath AR, Wittwer CT, eds. Tietz Textbook of Clinical Chemistry and Molecular Diagnostics. 6th ed. Elsevier;



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2. Peters T, Jr: Serum albumin. In: Putnam F, ed. The plasma proteins. Vol 1. 2nd ed. Academic Press; 1975

#### **Performance**

# **Method Description**

The dye, bromocresol green (BCG), is added to serum in an acid buffer. The color intensity of the blue-green albumin-BCG complex is directly proportional to the albumin concentration and is determined photometrically.(Package insert: Roche Albumin reagent. Roche Diagnostics; 03/2015)

#### PDF Report

No

# Day(s) Performed

Monday through Sunday

# **Report Available**

Same day/1 day

#### **Specimen Retention Time**

1 week

#### **Performing Laboratory Location**

Mayo Clinic Laboratories - Rochester Main Campus

# **Fees & Codes**

#### **Fees**

- Authorized users can sign in to <u>Test Prices</u> for detailed fee information.
- Clients without access to Test Prices can contact <u>Customer Service</u> 24 hours a day, seven days a week.
- Prospective clients should contact their account representative. For assistance, contact <u>Customer Service</u>.

#### **Test Classification**

This test has been cleared, approved, or is exempt by the US Food and Drug Administration and is used per manufacturer's instructions. Performance characteristics were verified by Mayo Clinic in a manner consistent with CLIA requirements.

# **CPT Code Information**

82040

#### LOINC® Information

| Test ID | Test Order Name | Order LOINC® Value |
|---------|-----------------|--------------------|



Albumin, Serum

| ALBS1     | Albumin, S       | 1751-7              |
|-----------|------------------|---------------------|
| Result ID | Test Result Name | Result LOINC® Value |
| ALB_S     | Albumin, S       | 1751-7              |