

## Overview

### Useful For

- Diagnosing congenital deficiency of coagulation factor VII
- Evaluating acquired deficiencies associated with liver disease, oral anticoagulant therapy, and vitamin K deficiency
- Determining degree of anticoagulation with warfarin to correlate with level of protein C
- Investigation of a prolonged prothrombin time

### Special Instructions

- [Coagulation Guidelines for Specimen Handling and Processing](#)

### Method Name

Optical Clot-Based

### NY State Available

Yes

## Specimen

### Specimen Type

Plasma Na Cit

### Ordering Guidance

Coagulation testing is highly complex, often requiring the performance of multiple assays and correlation with clinical information. For that reason, we suggest ordering Coagulation Consultations.

### Necessary Information

If priority specimen, mark request form, give reason, and request a call-back.

### Specimen Required

- Specimen Type:** Platelet-poor plasma
- Patient Preparation:** Patient must not be receiving coumadin (warfarin) or heparin therapy. (If not possible for medical reasons, note on request.)
- Collection Container/Tube:** Light-blue top (3.2% sodium citrate)
- Submission Container/Tube:** Plastic vial
- Specimen Volume:** 1 mL
- Collection Instructions:**
  - Specimen must be collected prior to factor replacement therapy

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

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 Minimum Volume

0.5 mL

Reject Due To

Gross hemolysis	Reject
Gross lipemia	Reject
Gross icterus	Reject

Specimen Stability Information

Specimen Type	Temperature	Time	Special Container
Plasma Na Cit	Frozen	14 days	

Clinical & Interpretive

Clinical Information

Factor VII is a vitamin K-dependent serine protease synthesized in the liver. It is a component of the extrinsic coagulation scheme, measured by the prothrombin time. Plasma biological half-life is about 3 to 6 hours. Deficiency may result in a bleeding diathesis.

Reference Values

Adults: 65-180%

Normal, full-term newborn infants or healthy premature infants may have decreased levels (> or =20%) which increase within the first postnatal week but may not reach adult levels for > or =180 days postnatal.\*

\*See Pediatric Hemostasis References section in [Coagulation Guidelines for Specimen Handling and Processing](#)

Interpretation

Liver disease, vitamin K deficiency, or warfarin anticoagulation can cause decreased factor VII activity.

Newborn infants usually have levels 25% or more.

**Cautions**

Factor VII is the first vitamin K-dependent coagulation factor to decrease after starting warfarin therapy and one of the first to return to normal when anticoagulation is discontinued.

**Clinical Reference**

1. Girolami A, Scandellari R, Scapin M, Vettore S. Congenital bleeding disorders of the vitamin K-dependent clotting factors. *Vitam Horm.* 2008;78:281-374. doi:10.1016/S0083-6729(07)00014-3
2. Brenner B, Kuperman AA, Watzka M, Oldenburg J. Vitamin K-dependent coagulation factors deficiency. *Semin Thromb Hemost.* 2009;35(4):439-446. doi:10.1055/s-0029-1225766
3. Mariani G, Bernardi F. Factor VII deficiency. *Semin Thromb Hemost.* 2009;35(4):400-406. doi:10.1055/s-0029-1225762
4. Franchini M, Marano G, Pupells S, et al. Rare congenital bleeding disorders. *Ann Transl Med.* 2018;6(17):331. doi:10.21037/atm.2018.08.34

**Performance****Method Description**

The factor VII assay is performed on the Instrumentation Laboratory ACL TOP using the prothrombin time (PT) method and a factor-deficient substrate. Patient plasma is combined and incubated with a factor VII-deficient substrate (normal plasma depleted of factor VII by immunoabsorption). After a specified incubation time, a PT reagent is added to trigger the coagulation process in the mixture. Then the time to clot formation is measured optically at a wavelength of 671 nm.(Owen CA Jr, Bowie EJW, Thompson JH Jr: *Diagnosis of Bleeding Disorders*. 2nd ed. Little, Brown and Company, 1975; Meijer P, Verbruggen HW, Spannagi M: *Clotting factors and inhibitors: Assays and interpretation*. In: Kottke-Marchant K, ed. *Laboratory Hematology Practice*. Wiley Blackwell Publishing; 2012:435-446)

**PDF Report**

No

**Day(s) Performed**

Monday through Saturday

**Report Available**

1 to 3 days

**Specimen Retention Time**

7 days

**Performing Laboratory Location**

Mayo Clinic Laboratories - Rochester Main Campus

**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 has been modified from the manufacturer's instructions. Its performance characteristics were determined by Mayo Clinic in a manner consistent with CLIA requirements. This test has not been cleared or approved by the US Food and Drug Administration.

CPT Code Information

85230

LOINC® Information

Test ID	Test Order Name	Order LOINC® Value
F_7	Coag Factor VII Assay, P	3198-9

Result ID	Test Result Name	Result LOINC® Value
F_7	Coag Factor VII Assay, P	3198-9