FOLATE RBC PROFILE

LABSC00017

On April 6, 2015, the Folate RBC Profile testing will move from the Siemens ADVIA Centaur to the Siemens IMMULITE 2000 analyzer. The IMMULITE method is a chemiluminescent competitive immunoassay.

Patient Preparation
NOTE: The test should not be used for folic acid measurements on patients currently receiving methotrexate (MTX), since high-dose infusions of MTX cross-react to some extent with the folate binding protein in the reagent.

Patient should be fasting.

Sample Requirements: EDTA whole blood

Collect: Collect TWO EDTA tubes; one will be used for the hematocrit and one for the RBC folate. Protect the samples from light.
Minimum volumes are:
- For hct: 0.5 mL EDTA whole blood
- For rbc folate: 0.5 mL EDTA whole blood

Specimen Preparation: It is recommended that the samples for rbc folate testing not be unprotected from light for more than 3 hours.

Storage/Transport: Transport both tubes protected from light at 2-8°C. If the samples will not be received in the lab within 24 hours, then:
1. Clearly designate one EDTA tube as "folate hct" and store and transport this EDTA tube at 2-8°C;
2. Clearly designate the other EDTA tube as "frozen rbc" and store and transport this tube protected from light and frozen.

Stability: Ambient 2 hours; Refrigerated 4 hours; Frozen 2 months.

Unacceptable Conditions: Any sample type other than EDTA whole blood.

Reference Interval: We will use the Reference Interval: >112 ng/mL
The reference interval is based on manufacturer studies on apparently healthy subjects in a fasting state.

Routine Testing: Monday and Thursday dayshift

If you have questions or need additional information please contact Laboratory Client Services at 734-7373 or email pathologyclientservices@ucdmc.ucdavis.edu.