

## Serotonin, Whole Blood

Order Name: **SEROTON B**  
Test Number: 3602470  
Revision Date: 12/12/2022

TEST NAME	METHODOLOGY	LOINC CODE
Serotonin, Whole Blood	Liquid Chromatography/Tandem Mass Spectrometry	2939-7

### SPECIMEN REQUIREMENTS

Specimen	Specimen Volume (min)	Specimen Type	Specimen Container	Transport Environment
Preferred	See Instructions	See Instructions	LabCorp ascorbic acid transport tube	Frozen

**Instructions**

**Specimen Type:** Lavender-top (EDTA) tube and transport tube (LabCorp item ID 33314) containing 75 mg ascorbic acid

**Specimen Storage:** FREEZE Please note that stability claims reflect stability of properly prepared whole blood with ascorbic acid preservative.

**Specimen Collection:** Sample collection practices that prevent blood clotting and oxidation of serotonin are imperative. Collect three tubes (4 mL each) whole blood. Invert tubes at least ten times to ensure thorough distribution of EDTA. IMMEDIATELY transfer 10 mL whole blood to transport tube containing 75 mg ascorbic acid. Thoroughly mix by inverting whole blood/ascorbic acid mixture another ten times. FREEZE transport tube and SEND ENTIRE COLLECTION to the laboratory. To avoid delays in turnaround time when requesting multiple tests on frozen samples, PLEASE SUBMIT SEPARATE FROZEN SPECIMENS FOR EACH TEST REQUESTED.

**Specimen Stability:** Ambient: 4 hours, Refrigerated : 24 hours, Frozen: 16 days

Medications that may affect serotonin concentrations include lithium, MAO inhibitors, methyldopa, morphine, and reserpine. In general, foods that contain serotonin do not interfere significantly. Slight increases may be seen in acute intestinal obstruction, acute MI, cystic fibrosis, dumping syndromes, and nontropical sprue. Metastasizing abdominal carcinoid tumors often show serotonin concentrations greater than 400 ng/mL.

### GENERAL INFORMATION

Expected TAT	3 - 6 days
Clinical Use	This is the preferred serotonin test when diagnosing carcinoid tumors.
Performing Labcorp Test Code	120089
Notes	Labcorp Test Code: 120089
CPT Code(s)	84260
Lab Section	Reference Lab