

CLIENT NOTICE

CHANGES TO TESTING OF SERUM VITAMIN A AND VITAMIN E

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LifeLabs is pleased to announce that effective **March 01, 2021**, serum Vitamin A and Vitamin E testing will be brought in-house. This document outlines key changes and improvements.

Sample Collection Requirements

Serum Vitamin A and Vitamin E tests require RED TOP collection tube instead of SST. Samples must be separated from cells immediately after clotting and aliquoted into a labelled AMBER tube. Store aliquots at -20°C and ship frozen. Protect from light.

If Vitamin A and Vitamin E are ordered on the same patient, only a single collection tube is needed.

New Testing Methodology

High pressure liquid chromatography (HPLC) testing methodology currently used for Vitamin A and E testing will be replaced by in-house liquid chromatography tandem mass spectrometry (LC-MS/MS) testing platform. This will result in improvement in analytical specificity and sensitivity as well as throughput and TAT.

New Reference Intervals

Age-specific reference intervals will now be reported for Vitamin A and E. Vitamin A and E reference intervals were derived from the 2005 – 2006 US National Health and Nutrition Survey (NHANES).

Please see below for detailed changes to Vitamin A and Vitamin E reference intervals:



Age (Years)		Vitamin A		Vitamin E	
Lower Limit	Upper Limit	Lower Limit (µmol/L)	Upper Limit (µmol/L)	Lower Limit (µmol/L)	Upper Limit (µmol/L)
<	6	Not established		Not established	
6	11	0.8	1.9	12.7	31.6
12	19	1.0	2.6	11.5	30.7
20	39	1.1	3.1	13.7	45.0
40	59	1.2	3.5	16.3	58.3
≥	60	1.3	3.8	16.3	67.3

TAT

Since Vitamin A and E testing will be performed in-house, turn-around-time will decrease to 7 days.

Vitamin A and E tests were developed by LifeLabs. Their performance characteristics have been fully validated and the test has been designated fit for use in routine patient testing. This test has not been submitted to Health Canada for evaluation, and as an in-house test, does not require Health Canada approval for diagnostic use.

The development of these new methodologies demonstrates our continued commitment to improve quality of testing, and to help build a healthier Canada.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact our Customer Care Centre at 1-877-849-3637.