

# Health Care Provider Bulletin

## CHANGES TO SERUM SELENIUM TESTING

As part of ongoing efforts to improve our quality of service, LifeLabs Ontario will start offering serum selenium testing in-house.

**Please be advised that there will be a transition from plasma collection to serum collection, effective as of March 25, 2024.**

Serum selenium will be tested using the ICP-MS/MS (Inductively Coupled Plasma – Tandem Mass Spectrometer) analytical platform, which is a gold standard for testing of trace metals.

Relevant information related to new testing is presented in Table 1.

**Table 1. Serum Selenium – TAT, Reference Interval, Sample Handling Requirements**

Test	TAT	Reference Level/Units	Sample Handling Requirements
Selenium (Serum)	1-3 days	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>&gt;1y: 1.20-2.09 umol/L</li><li>No reference interval established for ≤ 1y</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Collect sample in trace metal-free Royal Blue Top tube (without additive). Separate serum from cells ASAP or within 2 hours of collection: Allow blood to clot at room temperature for 60 minutes and separate by centrifugation.</li><li>After centrifugation, transfer serum (2ml minimum) using a plastic pipette into a new labelled Royal Blue tube (no additive). Do not ream serum specimen with a wooden stick to remove clots.</li><li>Store and ship refrigerated at 2-8 °C.</li></ul>

**Please note:** Due to changes in the analytical platform the reference interval and reporting comments have been updated based on the internal verification procedures. Please interpret results in context of the reference intervals provided on the report.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the LifeLabs Clinical Biochemist below or LifeLabs Customer Care Centre at 1-877-849-3637.

We welcome your feedback!

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