

## Division of Laboratory Medicine

Immunology

# Mast Cell Tryptase

## General information

**Specimen transport:** At room temperature

**Repeat frequency:** For suspected anaphylaxis samples should be taken as soon as possible after emergency treatment, 1-2 hours post treatment (but no later than 4 hours post) and a baseline sample at >24 hrs post treatment.

For mastocytosis repeat after 1 year or following significant clinical change.

**Special precautions:** For suspected anaphylaxis the first sample should be obtained as soon as possible after the patient's condition has been stabilised.

## Laboratory information

**Normal reference range:** 0-12.9 ug/l

**Volume and sample type:** 7ml clotted blood

**Method:** FEIA (Fluoroenzyme Immunoassay)

**Turnaround time (calendar days from sample receipt to authorised result):** Median – 4

**Participation in EQA Scheme:** UK NEQAS for Tryptase

## Clinical information

**Indications for the test:** Suspected acute allergic reactions, anaphylaxis, suspected Mastocytosis

**Factors affecting the test:** Tryptase levels decline following an adverse reaction. The decline in tryptase levels can be confirmed providing that two blood samples are obtained (each indicating the time it was taken). 40% of the Manchester population is alpha tryptase deficient. This may affect the normal range but future research is needed.

**ICE reference:** Mast Cell Tryptase

**(Last updated February 2021)**