

Division of Laboratory Medicine

Immunology

β2 Microglobulin

General information

High levels are seen in myeloma

Specimen transport: At room temperature

Repeat frequency: Post treatment monitoring

Special precautions: None

Laboratory information

Normal reference range: 0.8-2.2 mg/L

Volume and sample type: 4ml serum

Method: Turbidimetry

Turnaround time (calendar days from sample receipt to authorised result): Median: 2

Participation in EQA Scheme: UK NEQAS for β2Microglobulin scheme

Clinical information

Indications for the test: Useful for monitoring turnover in myeloma and lymphoma. For diagnostic purposes, the results should always be assessed in conjunction with the patient's medical history, clinical examination, and other findings

Factors affecting the test: Elevated levels are associated with renal impairment. Chronic dialysis.

Interferences: In very rare cases of gammopathy, type IgM (Waldenström's macroglobulinemia) in particular, may cause unreliable results.

(Last updated July 2023)