C1 esterase inhibitor

General information

Should always request C4 at the same time

Specimen transport: At room temperature

Repeat frequency: At significant change of clinical symptoms, monitoring of treatment.

Special precautions: None

Laboratory information

Normal reference range: 0.16 - 0.32 g/L

Volume and sample type: 4ml serum

Method: Turbidimetry

Participation in EQA scheme: UK NEQAS for C1 Inhibitor & Functional Complement and INSTAND Complement Analysis

Turnaround time (calendar days from sample receipt to authorised result): Median - 6

Clinical information

Indications for the test: Suspected type I hereditary angioedema. This disease causes recurrent attacks of abdominal pain or swellings. The complement component C4 is almost always low in HAE. This is used as a reliable screen for the disease.

Factors affecting the test: None

(Last updated November 2026)