

TEST: FERRITIN**PRINCIPLE:**

Ferritin functions as an intracellular site of iron storage. Clinically significant concentrations are found in serum, and the concentration of serum ferritin is directly related to total body iron stores. Serum ferritin concentrations are determined to evaluate iron stores in normal patients, patients with iron deficiency and iron overload, and to monitor the response to iron therapy. The clinical use of the ferritin measurements have been extensively reviewed.

SPECIMEN REQUIREMENTS:

2ml serum collected in a red top tube with no additive or in a serum separator tube (gel barrier). Store in the refrigerator at 2°-8° C for up to 5 days. For long term storage, freeze at -20° C or below. Avoid thaw freeze cycles.

METHOD: Enhanced Chemiluminescence

REFERENCES:

1. Alfrey CP. Serum Ferritin Assay. *Clin Lab Sci* 9:179-208;1978
2. Valberg LS. Plasma Ferritin Concentrations: Their Clinical Significance and Relevance to Patient Care. *CanMed Assoc J.* 122:1240-1248; 1980.
3. Worwood M. Serum Ferritin. *Clin Lab Sci.* 10:171-204; 1979.
4. Cook JD. Clinical Evaluation of Iron Deficiency. *Semin Hematol.* 19:6-18; 1982
5. Kirking MH. Treatment of Chronic Iron Overload. *Clin Pharm.* 10:775-783; 1991
6. Worwood M. Ferritin. *Blood Rev* 4:259-269;1990.

Normal range:

Normal Male: 17.9-464 ng/ml

Normal Female (< 50 yeats of age): 6.24-137 ng/ml

Normal Female (≥ 50 years of age): 11.1-264 ng/ml

Turnaround time: 1 day