

Who we are

Majority owned by the NHS, but with the commercial freedom to invest in innovation, Viapath are on a mission to transform pathology services in the UK. We provide pathology services to the NHS, private hospitals and other organisations both across the country and internationally.

What we do

All of our laboratories are CPA accredited and are working towards the more stringent ISO15189 accreditation. We are committed to delivering a clinically excellent pathology service, placing quality at the core of everything we do.

TEST OVERVIEW

Description

The Architect Active-B12 assay is a two-step immunoassay for the quantitative determination of holotranscobalamin in human serum using chemiluminescent microparticle immunoassay (CMIA) technology

Clinical details

The current convention is to estimate the abundance of vitamin B12 using total serum vitamin B12 as the first-line screen for deficiency. However this test has a low sensitivity. Up to 45% of vitamin B12-deficient/insufficient subjects may be overlooked if only serum B12 is used as a screening test. Active B12 (holotranscobalamin - holoTC) is the metabolically active portion of B12. Emerging evidence indicates that a low level of Active B12 is a more reliable marker of impaired vitamin B12 status than a low level of serum vitamin B12. Moreover unlike serum B12, Active B12 is believed to be stable in pregnancy. Several studies support Active B12 measurement as a first-line diagnostic test, and suggest that Active B12 may be the earliest marker for B12 depletion.

Related condition or disease

Vitamin B12 deficiency, transcobalamin deficiency/Pernicious anaemia, ileal disease, chronic malnutrition, atrophic gastritis, achlorhydria, infection with *Helicobacter pylori*.

Reference range

>70*; * between 25-70 referred for MMA

Synonyms or keywords

holoTC, holotranscobalamin, holoTC II, TC-B12/vitamin B12 deficiency, pernicious anaemia

Units

pmol/L

Department

Haemostasis and Thrombosis Department

Laboratory

Nutristasis Unit at St Thomas'

Location

Viapath at St Thomas' Hospital

ORDERING INFORMATION

Sample type and Volume required

SST

Call in advance

No

Turnaround time

Samples processed daily between Mon-Friday (9am-5pm).

Storage and transport

Separated serum can be sent by first class post.

Time limit

MMA analysed within 5 working days

Contacts

Nutristasis Unit at St Thomas'
02071886815 / 89543
St Thomas' Hospital
North Wing - 4th Floor
Westminster Bridge Road
London SE1 7EH

How can we help?

We have a number of partnering options to suit your needs, whether you require this specific test or a range of services, we are here to help. Contact one of our friendly Business Development Managers for more information, or visit our website.