TEST ID: PLACA
LIPOPROTEIN-ASSOCIATED PHOSPHOLIPASE A2 ACTIVITY, SERUM

USEFUL FOR
Identifying persons at increased risk for coronary heart disease events.

CLINICAL INFORMATION
Lp-PLA2 is an inflammatory protein produced in the vascular intima and is highly upregulated in atherosclerotic plaques, especially within the necrotic core and macrophages surrounding vulnerable plaques. It circulates bound to low density lipoproteins and, to a lesser extent, high density lipoproteins. Patients with higher plaque burden have higher circulating Lp-PLA2. In multivariate analysis with traditional risk factors and C-reactive protein, Lp-PLA2 activity is an independent predictor of coronary heart disease and stroke in the general population. Recently, elevated Lp-PLA2 activity was found to associate with faster stenosis progression in patients with mild aortic stenosis.

SPECIMEN REQUIRED
Preferred: Serum gel
Acceptable: Red top
Submission Container/Tube: Plastic vial
Specimen Volume: 1 mL

INTERPRETATION
Individuals with increased Lp-PLA2 activity are at higher risk of coronary heart disease events and stroke. In one population-based study using the REGARDS cohort, individuals with \( \geq 225 \) nmol/min/mL were at increased risk of CHD events (Lp-PLA2 Activity assay package insert, diaDexus, INC.).

CAUTIONS
This test is for Lp-PLA2 activity and should not be confused with Lp-PLA2 mass assay.

REFERENCE VALUES
\( \geq 18 \) years:
- Males: \( \leq 284 \) nmol/min/mL
- Females: \( \leq 228 \) nmol/min/mL

ANALYTIC TIME
Same day/1 day

CONTENT AND VALUES SUBJECT TO CHANGE. SEE THE MAYO MEDICAL LABORATORIES TEST CATALOG FOR CURRENT INFORMATION.
CLINICAL REFERENCE


