

**PROTOPORPHYRINS, FRACTIONATION, ERYTHROCYTES
#8739**

EXPLANATION: Currently, test #8739, Protoporphyrins, Fractionation, Erythrocytes accepts two specimen types; whole blood and washed erythrocytes. A new unit code will be created to help facilitate ordering the separate specimen types. To reflect this update, the current unit code #8739 will also undergo a published name change.

CURRENT PUBLISHED NAME: Protoporphyrins, Fractionation, Erythrocytes

NEW PUBLISHED NAME: Protoporphyrins, Fractionation, Whole Blood

CURRENT SPECIMEN REQUIRED:

Submit only 1 of the following specimens:

Washed Erythrocytes

1. Patient should abstain from alcohol for 24 hours.
Note: Include a list of medications the patient is currently taking and forward with the specimen.
2. Draw a full, green-top (heparin) tube. Process entire heparinized whole blood specimen as follows:
 - A. Place on wet ice immediately.
 - B. Transfer to a 12-mL graduated centrifuge tube.
 - C. Centrifuge for 10 minutes at 2,000 rpm.
 - D. Record volume of packed cells and the total volume of the specimen. This information must be sent with the specimen.
 - E. Discard supernatant plasma.
 - F. Wash erythrocytes 2 times by resuspension with 5 mL of cold 0.9% saline, discarding supernatant after each washing.
 - G. Resuspend packed cells to the original total volume with 0.9% saline. Invert gently to mix.
3. Send washed erythrocyte suspension frozen in plastic vial.
Note: Volume of packed cells and total volume of erythrocyte suspension (red cells + saline) are required on request form for processing.

Whole Blood to be Washed at Mayo Medical Laboratories

(Specimen must arrive within 48 hours of draw.) If specimen cannot arrive within 48 hours, please send washed erythrocytes. Include the cell suspension information.

1. Patient should abstain from alcohol for 24 hours.
Note: Include a list of medications the patient is currently taking and forward with the specimen.
2. Draw a full, green-top (heparin) tube and place on wet ice immediately.
3. Send entire heparinized whole blood specimen refrigerated.

4. Specimen cannot be frozen. Test will be cancelled if frozen whole blood is received.

NEW SPECIMEN REQUIRED:

Unit code #8739 will now only accept **whole blood** specimens as described above.

Note: (Specimen must arrive within 48 hours of draw.) If specimen cannot arrive within 48 hours, please send washed erythrocytes by ordering unit code #31891. Include the cell suspension information.

QUESTIONS: Contact your Mayo Medical Laboratories' Regional Manager or
Sara Siewert, MML Laboratory Technologist Resource Coordinator
Telephone: 800-533-1710