

Test Name

CARBON DIOXIDE (CO₂)

Synonyms

CO₂, Bicarbonate, HCO₃

Test Code

119

Specimen Type

Serum or plasma

Preferred Container

Serum separator tube (SST)

Alternate Container

green (heparin)

Minimum Volume**Temperature/Stability**

Room temperature: 24 hours or Refrigerated: 48 hours

Handling

Use tightly stoppered tube. If red-top is used, centrifuge within 45 minutes, remove serum, place in transport tube, and tightly stopper tube.

Reject

Anticoagulants other than heparin; grossly hemolyzed; tube left open; plain red tube