

Overview

Intended Use

The Floré Heavy Metals test is a chemical analysis test intended for the quantitative measurement of a variety of metals that may cause symptoms ranging from gastrointestinal distress, changes in coordination or vision, or fatigue.

Method Name

Inductively coupled plasma mass spectrometry (ICP-MS).

Specimen

Specimen Type

Stool specimen

Shipping Instructions

Specimen Required

Supplies: Stool container

Submission Container/Tube: Stool container

Specimen Volume: 2 g

Collection Instructions

1. Collect a fresh random fecal specimen, no preservative.
2. Send the fresh sample immediately after collection. If specimen is collected on a different day than shipping date, please freeze until shipment.

Specimen Minimum volume

1 g

Rejection Criteria

The minimum sample volume specified above is a requirement for a successful test.

Specimen Stability Information

| Specimen Used | Temperature | Maximum Time | Special Container |
|---------------|------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| Fecal | Sample previously sent | Frozen previously on-site | Provided collection tube |
| | Refrigerated | 72 hrs | Provided collection tube |
| | Freshly collected | Shipped the same day | Provided collection tube |

Clinical and Interpretive

Clinical Information

Flore' heavy metal testing enables to screen the potential toxic metal burden in your body. Analysis of elements in feces provides a comprehensive evaluation of environmental exposure, potential for accumulation in the body, and possibly endogenous detoxification of potentially toxic metals. A single-step specimen collection method mentioned above is an easy and convenient collection of stool samples.

Fecal excretion is the primary route of elimination of the most toxic metals from the body, especially for elements such as mercury, cadmium and lead. Fecal mercury levels are highly correlated with the number of amalgams in the mouth.

THE BENEFITS OF HEAVY METAL TESTING

- Monitor the metal toxicity levels in your body
- Determine if or mineral deficiency is contributing to the disorder
- Monitor the effects of chelation (elimination of heavy metals from the body)
- Help determine if supplementation of important minerals may bring about significant improvements

Reference Values (mg/kg)

Aluminum -> 0 - 447

Arsenic -> 0 - 0.424

Cadmium -> 0 - 0.224

Mercury -> 0 - 0.035

Lead -> 0 - 0.134

Thallium -> 0 - 0.017

Performance

Method Description

Inductively Coupled Plasma Mass Spectrometry (ICP-MS) or ICP Mass Spectrometry is highly sensitive and capable of multi-element trace analysis and ultra-trace analysis, often at the parts-per-trillion level. Testing for trace elements can be performed on a range of materials including stool specimens.

ICP spectroscopy is an analytical method used to measure and identify elements within a sample matrix based on the ionization of the elements within the sample. Stool samples are digested and liquified prior to analysis. Once the sample is liquid, the ICP uses Argon (Ar) carrier gas to aerosolize the sample, sending only the smallest droplets through the chamber and into the Argon plasma torch. The ionized samples are now extracted from the plasma by skimmer and interference cones and extraction lenses. Further refinement of the ion particles occurs by passing through an off-axis ion lens removing photons and neutral ions reducing background noise.

The resulting beam of ions pass through the hyperbolic quadrupole of the mass spectrometer and the ions are separated by their mass-to-charge ratio after which the selected ions are measured by the detector and are reported.

PDF Report: Yes

Day(s) Performed: Monday through Friday

Report Available in: 5 days

Performing Laboratory Location: ChromoDX, Little Rock, AR

CPT Code Information:

| Tests | Code description | CPT code |
|-----------------------|---------------------------------|--|
| Heavy Metal Test (HM) | Comprehensive Toxic Metal Panel | 82175, 83655, 83825, 82300, 83015, 82108 |