

Carcinoembryonic Antigen (CEA)

CPT Code: 82378

Order Code: C135

ABN Requirement: No

Synonyms: CEA

Specimen: Serum

Volume: 0.5 mL

Minimum Volume: 0.2 mL

Container: Gel-barrier tube (SST)

Collection:

1. Collect and label sample according to standard protocols.
2. Gently invert tube 5 times immediately after draw. DO NOT SHAKE.
3. Allow blood to clot 30 minutes.
4. Centrifuge for 10 minutes.

Special Instructions: Samples should not be taken from patients receiving therapy with high biotin doses (>5 mg/day) until at least 8 hours following the last dose.

Transport: Store serum at 2°C to 8°C after collection and ship the same day per packaging instructions included with the provided shipping box.

Stability:

Ambient (15-25°C): 7 days

Refrigerated (2-8°C): 14 days

Frozen (-20°C): 6 months

Deep Frozen (-70°C): 6 months

Causes for Rejection: Specimens other than serum; improper labeling; samples not stored properly; samples older than stability limits

Methodology: Electrochemiluminescence Immunoassay (ECLIA)

Turn Around Time: 1 to 5 days

Reference Range:

Age	ng/mL
All Ages	<3.0

Clinical Significance: Carcinoembryonic antigen testing may be used to monitor response to treatment and disease recurrence in individuals with cancers, particularly those of the large intestine. Carcinoembryonic antigen levels may be elevated in conditions with an inflammatory component.

Limitations: In rare cases, interference due to extremely high titers of antibodies to analyte-specific antibodies, streptavidin or ruthenium can occur.

The CPT codes provided are based on AMA guidelines and are for informational purposes only. CPT coding is the sole responsibility of the billing party. Please direct any questions regarding coding to the payer being billed.