Ionized Calcium Testing Guidelines

Providence Seaside Hospital Laboratory
2011-2012

Effective November 1, 2011, the Providence Seaside Hospital Laboratory is introducing Ionized Calcium testing on the Siemens Rapid Point 405 Analyzer. This replaces the test previously referred to Providence Health & Services Regional Laboratory Services in Portland, Oregon. Ionized calcium is widely recognized as a better indicator of physiological calcium status in blood than total calcium. Typically, the reasons for measuring ionized calcium can be divided into three clinical categories: monitoring trends in acute or critical care, routine diagnostic care and research.

Test Name: Ionized Calcium
Synonym: CAION-Ven (venous) or CAION-Arterial
Test Code: 43030 CAION-Arterial; 43031 CAION-Venous
Methodology: Measurement Sensors
Performed: Daily
Reported: Same day
Performed At: Providence Seaside Laboratory Services
Collect:
- Serum in a completely filled gel separator tube, unopened, or
- Heparinized whole blood in a syringe, tightly capped, or
- Plasma from a completely filled lithium or sodium heparin gel separator tube, unopened.
Transport: As soon as possible to the laboratory for testing.
Stability:
- Heparinized whole blood - 4 hours (keep in slurry of ice)
- Spun SST- 24 hours at room temperature or 7 days, refrigerated
- Spun Heparinized separator tube- 4 hours (keep in slurry of ice)
CPT Code: 82330
Reportable Range: 1.10-1.30 mmol/L for both Arterial and Venous

For more information, please contact Providence Seaside Laboratory Services at 503-717-7250.