|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Protein Electrophoresis | | | |
| **Synonyms** | |  | SPE, EPS, SEP |
| **Clinical Indication** | |  | Investigation and monitoring of myeloma and other B cell dyscrasias. Investigation of high serum globulin level, low immnoglobulins or low globulin levels In conjunction with urine BJP investigations and serum free light chains.  For investigation of suspected alpha-1 antitrypsin deficiency please request alpha-1 antitrypsin level. |
| **Part of Profile / See Also** | |  |  |
| **Request Form** | |  | Combined Pathology manual Blood form or ICE request |
| **Availability / Frequency of Analysis** | |  | On request  Minimum retesting interval is 3 months (2 weeks for haematology). |
| **Turnaround Time** | |  | Five days. May be longer if additional investigations are required |
| **Patient Preparation** | |  | None required |
| **Sample Requirements** | |  |  |
| **Specimen Type** |  | Serum |
| **Volume** |  | 2 ml |
| **Container** |  | Yellow top (SST) tube Only  Green-top Lithium heparin tubes are unsuitable for analysis.  Plain serum tubes may also be used |
| **Reference Range & Units** | |  |  |
| **Interferences** | |  |  |
| **Interpretation & Clinical**  **Decision Value (if applicable)** | |  | An interpretative report is issued. Normally, minor abnormalities will not be reported. Further investigations will be performed if an abnormal band is found including confirmation and identification by gel immunofixation/immunotyping and quantitation. If appropriate a clinical comment is issued by Clinical Haematologists |
| **References** | |  |  |
| **Test code** | |  | SEP |
| **Lab Handling** | |  | Store at 4°C. |