

Flecainide

Synonyms

Tambocor

Clinical Indication

Flecainide is used for the treatment and prophylaxis of supraventricular tachycardia, including AV nodal and AV re-entrant tachycardia and atrial fibrillation in patients with normal or near-normal left ventricular function.

Requested by Consultant or agreed with Consultant Biochemist

Part of Profile / See Also

Request Form

Combined Pathology manual Blood form or ICE request

Availability / Frequency of Analysis

Referral test: Analysed at Leicester Hospital, if specific criteria met. [\(8376\)](#)

Turnaround Time

2 weeks

Patient Preparation

Samples should be collected before next dose (trough) at least two days after starting therapy.

Sample Requirements

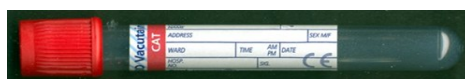
Specimen Type

Serum or plasma

Volume

1 ml

Container



Red top (plain) tube preferred



Yellow top (SST) tube acceptable if sample separated within 12 hours.



Or Paediatric lithium heparin (Orange top – Sarstedt)



Or Paediatric SST (Yellow top – BD Microtainer tube acceptable if sample separated within 12 hours)

Reference Range & Units

200 – 700 ug/L

Interferences

Other medications can interfere, please state all medications. Impaired renal function will significantly prolong the half-life.

Interpretation & Clinical

Decision Value (if applicable)

Drug Kinetics: The drug is well absorbed orally. Plasma half-life averages 20 hours (range 12 to 27 hours) in adults, although in children it has been reported to be eight hours.

Steady-state levels are achieved in three to five days. Clearance of flecainide can be accelerated by phenobarbital and rifampin. There are no significant metabolites of flecainide. Co-administration with digoxin increases serum digoxin by 20%

References

Test code

FLEC

Lab Handling

Aliquot 500ul and store in referrals rack at 4C. Sent daily by Royal Mail to Leicester Hospital.



8376

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ISO 15189:2022**