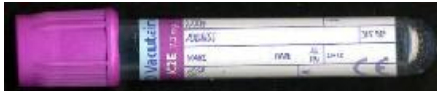


# Haemoglobinopathy Screen



<b>Synonyms</b>	Thalassaemia screen, Sickle screen, Haemoglobin electrophoresis, Haemoglobin variant, Hb variant.
<b>Clinical Indication</b>	To confirm or exclude presence of variant haemoglobins and or beta thalassaemia. Part of national screening programme of all antenatal patients for early detection of haemoglobin abnormalities including sickle cell and thalassaemia conditions.  Ethnic origin required. Family origin questionnaire (FOQ) required if pregnant.
<b>Part of Profile / See Also</b>	HPLC (High Performance Liquid Chromatography) & FBC. If applicable confirmatory tests or sent to referral laboratory for confirmation.
<b>Request Form</b>	Combined Pathology manual blood form or ICE request.  Antenatal samples should use an Antenatal booking form with a completed family origin questionnaire.
<b>Availability / Frequency of Analysis</b>	On request; daily routine working day. If urgent please contact laboratory.  Referred test: Analysed at Kings College Hospital
<b>Turnaround Time</b>	Within 3 working days unless confirmatory testing is required.
<b>Patient Preparation</b>	None required
<b>Sample Requirements</b>	
<b>Specimen Type</b>	Whole blood (EDTA)
<b>Volume</b>	3 or 4 mL.
<b>Container</b>	 Purple top (EDTA) tube.
<b>Reference Range &amp; Units</b>	Hb F <1.0 % Hb A2 1.7 - 3.4 %  Ranges apply to adults only, Ranges may vary in children and infants
<b>Interferences</b>	Recent transfusion may mask / reduce level of any variants present.
<b>Interpretation &amp; Clinical Decision Value (if applicable)</b>	Haemoglobinopathy screens are reported on the basis of initial HPLC testing. Secondary testing is then performed to confirm common Haemoglobin variants. The interpretation is based on the Antenatal Screening programme algorithm. For Antenatal samples additional information is reported to indicate if partner tests are required.
<b>References</b>	Sickle Cell and Thalassaemia: Handbook for Laboratories
<b>Test code</b>	HBO, if antenatal use AHBO
<b>Lab Handling</b>	Hb variants requiring additional confirmation tests or definitive diagnosis are sent to Kings College Hospital.