


Tacrolimus

Synonyms	FK506, Prograf, Astellas
Clinical Indication	<p>Tacrolimus is an immunosuppressant used after organ transplantation for prophylaxis of transplant rejection in kidney (and other organ) recipients.</p> <p>Tacrolimus works by inhibiting the production of IL-2. IL-2 promotes the development and proliferation of T cells.</p> <p>Used in the monitoring of patients on tacrolimus therapy.</p>
Part of Profile / See Also	
Request Form	Combined Pathology manual Blood form or ICE request
Availability / Frequency of Analysis	Referred test: Analysed by LCMS at the Royal London Hospital 8285 .
Turnaround Time	48 hours (can be up to 72 hours for samples taken on a Friday). This turnaround time only applies to samples sent to the Royal London with whom a system is in place to facilitate reporting. If you request that the level be analysed at a different hospital, result turnaround may be much slower.
Patient Preparation	Samples should be collected before next dose (trough)
Sample Requirements	
Specimen Type	Whole blood (EDTA)
Volume	1 ml
Container	 Pink/purple top (EDTA) tube  Paediatric EDTA (Red top – Sarstedt)  Paediatric EDTA (Pink top – BD Microtainer)
Reference Range & Units	<p>Therapeutic range varies depending on reasons for use, type of transplant and concomitant disease and medication.</p> <p>Indicative target/therapeutic levels (trough sample) are between 1 and 12 ug/L in stable patients.</p>
Interferences	
Interpretation & Clinical Decision Value (if applicable)	Dependent on concomitant disease and medication and clinical signs and symptoms.

References

Test code

TACR

TACR is the primary code. Use Winpath to look up test codes if the tacrolimus level is specifically requested to be sent to a hospital other than Royal London.

Lab Handling

Store the whole blood (EDTA) in the referrals rack at 4°C. Sent daily by courier to Royal London Hospital.



8285
Accredited to
ISO 15189:2012