


Rituximab Monitoring

Synonyms	CD 19/20 levels
Clinical Indication	<p>Test used for monitoring levels of B cell lymphocyte cells in Rheumatoid Arthritis (RA) patients receiving Rituximab therapy.</p> <p>Only tested on RA patients on Rituximab therapy and if requested by a Rheumatology Consultant</p>
Part of Profile / See Also	Includes FBC and flow cytometry
Request Form	Combined Pathology manual request form or ICE request.
Availability / Frequency of Analysis	Routine working day Mon-Fri. Tests must be received by 12pm on a Friday.
Turnaround Time	2 Days
Patient Preparation	None
Sample Requirements	
Specimen Type	Whole Blood
Volume	3 or 4 ml EDTA
Container	 <p>Paediatric Lavender top (EDTA) tube</p>
	<p>Samples should be transported to laboratory immediately and be delivered Mon- Thurs in routine hours and before 12:00 midday on Friday.</p>
Reference Range & Units	Units are percentages and absolute count (cells per microliter).
Interferences	Prolonged storage
Interpretation & Clinical Decision Value (if applicable)	CD19 is used to monitor B Cell lymphocytes counts in patients on Rituximab therapy. Lower levels of CD19 positive lymphocytes indicates successful therapy.
References	
Test code	R20
Lab Handling	Samples should be kept at ambient temperature prior to testing.