

## Alcohol

### Acceptable Tube Types



<b>Alternate Name:</b>	Ethyl alcohol
<b>Performing Lab:</b>	New Hanover and Cape Fear
<b>Specimen Container:</b>	Yellow separator tube Green tube (lithium heparin) Green tube on ice Plasma separator Red tube Tiger
<b>Minimum Volume Required:</b>	2.0 mL whole blood
<b>Testing Availability</b>	<b>Routine:</b> 24 hours/day <b>Stat:</b> Yes
<b>Turnaround Time:</b>	Routine - 4 hours Stat < 1.0 hours
<b>Special Handling:</b>	Do not cleanse the sample draw site with alcohol or other volatile disinfectants.
<b>Patient Preparation:</b>	None
<b>Specimen Stability:</b>	None
<b>Reference Range:</b>	None detected
<b>Critical Value:</b>	> 400 mg/dL
<b>CPT Code:</b>	82055
<b>Testing Methodology:</b>	Colorimetric
<b>Causes for Specimen Rejection:</b>	Improper labeling Use of alcohol disinfectant
<b>Other Comments:</b>	The test is for medical purposes only. It is not to be used for legal alcohol.
<b>Clinical Significance:</b>	Quantitation of alcohol level for medical or legal purposes; test unconscious patients; used to diagnose alcohol intoxication and determine appropriate therapy; detect alcoholism and to monitor ethanol treatment for methanol intoxication. Must be tested as possible cause of

coma of unknown etiology since alcohol intoxication may mimic diabetic coma, cerebral trauma, and drug overdose.