

TEST STATUS - NEW TEST

Notification Date: October 31st, 2024

Effective Date: December 18th, 2024

Test Name: Bilirubin Total, Body Fluid (BFTBIL)

Test ID: LAB6736

Explanation: On the effective date, VML at MetroCenter will start performing body fluid total bilirubin testing. This test is available to VUMC clinicians only. External customer samples cannot be accepted.

Useful For: Differentiation of transudates and exudates, identification of bile leakage, identification of biliary and/or hepatic source of fluid accumulation¹⁻⁴.

Methodology: Colorimetric Diazo

Reference Interval: The reference intervals for this body fluid are unavailable. It is recommended that you compare this result with the concentration in serum or plasma.

Specimen Requirements:

| | |
|--------------------------------|--|
| Specimen Type: | Body Fluid |
| Specimen Sources: | Pleural, Drain, Ascites/Peritoneal, Biliary/Hepatic |
| Container/Tube: | Sterile Container |
| Alternate Container/Tube: | Red (No Gel) |
| Specimen Preparation: | Protect from light. Centrifuge and separate to remove cellular material (Min 0.3 mL). Specify fluid type |
| Specimen Volume: | 1 Sterile Container |
| Pediatric Collection: | 1 Sterile Container |
| Storage/Transport Temperature: | Refrigerated: 2° to 8°C |

Specimen Stability Information:

| Specimen Type | Temperature | Time |
|---------------|-------------------------------|--------|
| Body Fluid | 20-25 °C (Protect from light) | 1 Day |
| | 4-8 °C (Protect from light) | 3 Days |

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Reasons for Rejection: Hemolysis, QNS, fluid type not listed as acceptable specimen type, turbid samples unable to be cleared by centrifugation, specimens that are too viscous to be aspirated, and samples outside of stability limits.

CPT Code(s): 82247

Days(s) Performed: Daily

Report Available: Continuous

References:

1. Koch M, Garden OJ, Padbury R, et al. [Bile leakage after hepatobiliary and pancreatic surgery: a definition and grading of severity by the International Study Group of Liver Surgery](#). *Surgery*. 2011;149(5):680-688.
2. Darwin P, Goldberg E, Uradomo L. [Jackson Pratt drain fluid-to-serum bilirubin concentration ratio for the diagnosis of bile leaks](#). *Gastrointest Endosc*. 2010;71(1):99-104.
3. Elis A, Meisel S, Tishler T, et al. [Ascitic fluid-to-serum bilirubin concentration ratio for the classification of transudates or exudates](#). *Am J Gastroenterol*. 1998;93(3):401-403.
4. Meisel S, Shamiss A, Thaler M, et al. [Pleural fluid-to-serum bilirubin concentration ratio for the separation of transudates from exudates](#). *CHEST*. 1990;98(1):141-144.

Questions: Please get in touch with Vanderbilt Medical Laboratories Customer Service at 615-875-5227 (5-LABS) or 800-551-5227 or visit our website: [Home | Vanderbilt Medical Laboratories \(vumc.org\)](http://Home | Vanderbilt Medical Laboratories (vumc.org))