

# Cholesterol, Total

**CPT Code:** 82465

**Order Code:** C117

**ABN Requirement:** No

**Synonyms:** Chol; Cholesterol

**Specimen:** Serum

**Volume:** 1.0 mL

**Minimum Volume:** 0.5 mL

**Container:** Gel-barrier tube (SST, Tiger Top)

## **Collection:**

1. Collect and label sample according to standard protocols.
2. Gently invert tube 5 times immediately after draw. DO NOT SHAKE.
3. Allow blood to clot 30 minutes.
4. Centrifuge for 10 minutes.

**Fasting:** If a cholesterol measurement is to be performed along with Triglycerides, but not part of a lipid panel, then the patient should be fasting 9-12 hours prior to collection. If the cholesterol is ordered as part of a lipid panel, then a fasting sample is not required.

**Transport:** Store serum or at 2°C to 8°C after collection and ship the same day per packaging instructions included with the provided shipping box.

## **Stability:**

**Ambient (15-25°C):** 7 days

**Refrigerated (2-8°C):** 7 days

**Frozen (-20°C):** 90 days

**Causes for Rejection:** Specimens other than serum; improper labeling; samples not stored properly; samples older than stability limits; gross hemolysis; moderate to gross icterus

**Methodology:** Enzymatic

**Turn Around Time:** 1 to 3 days

## Relative Risk Range:

Age	Low Risk mg/dL	Moderate Risk mg/dL	High Risk mg/dL
<20 years	<170	170-199	≥200
≥20 years	<200	N/A	≥200

**Clinical Significance:** Total serum cholesterol analysis is useful in the diagnosis of hyperlipoproteinemia, atherosclerosis, hepatic and thyroid disease.

**Limitations:** Patients treated with N-Acetyl Cysteine (NAC) for acetaminophen overdose may generate a false low result for cholesterol. Venipuncture immediately after or during the administration of Metamizole (Dipyrone) may lead to falsely low results for cholesterol. Venipuncture should be performed prior to the administration of Metamizole.

*The CPT codes provided are based on AMA guidelines and are for informational purposes only. CPT coding is the sole responsibility of the billing party. Please direct any questions regarding coding to the payer being billed.*