

# Red Blood Cell Count

**CPT Code:** 85041

**Order Code:** 1379

**Synonym:** RBC

**ABN Requirement:** No

**Specimen:** EDTA Whole Blood

**Volume:** 4.0 mL

**Minimum Volume:** 1.0 mL

**Container:** EDTA (Lavender Top tube)

## **Collection:**

1. Collect and label sample according to standard protocols.
2. Gently invert tube 8-10 times immediately after draw. DO NOT SHAKE.
3. Do not centrifuge.

**Transport:** Store EDTA whole blood 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):** Not Acceptable

**Refrigerated (2-8°C):** 3 days

**Frozen (-20°C):** Not Acceptable

**Causes for Rejection:** Clotted samples; grossly hemolyzed samples; specimens other than EDTA whole blood; specimens with plasma removed; insufficient volume; contamination from IV fluid; improper labeling; samples not stored properly; samples older than stability limits

**Methodology:** Flow Cytometry

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

**Reference Range:** See Laboratory Report

**Clinical Significance:** A red blood cell count is used to diagnose anemia and

other conditions affecting red blood cells.

*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.*