

α2-Macroglobulin

Description	Protease inhibitor with broad spectrum of activity.
Indication	No specific use but may be used to assess serum dilution
Additional Info	<p>This test is not performed by the Blood Sciences Laboratory but is sent to a reference laboratory for analysis.</p> <p>α2-macroglobulin is produced by the liver and is a major component of the α2 band in protein electrophoresis.</p> <p>Functions as an: Inhibitor of coagulation by inhibiting thrombin Inhibitor of fibrinolysis by inhibiting plasmin and kalikrein.</p> <p>Long standing renal failure can lead to amyloid (insoluble protein aggregate formation) by α2-macroglobulin.</p>
Concurrent Tests	N/A
Dietary Requirements	N/A
Interpretation	<p>Increased concentrations are seen in nephrotic syndrome, liver disease, ataxia telangiectasia, diabetes, oestrogen therapy and pregnancy.</p> <p>Decreased concentrations are measured in proteolytic diseases such as in acute pancreatitis and fibrinolysis. Decreased concentrations also measured in pre-eclampsia without overt proteinuria.</p>
Collection Conditions	N/A
Frequency of testing	As required