

Nortriptyline (serum)	
Description	<p>Nortriptyline is a second generation tricyclic antidepressant (TCA). It is prescribed as the hydrochloride salt as Allegron®.</p> <p>In adults, nortriptyline is used to treat depression. In children, it is licensed for use in the treatment of nocturnal enuresis. Nortriptyline may also be used off-licence for neuropathic pain.</p>
Indication	King Pharmaceuticals Ltd, who manufacture Allegron®, recommend therapeutic drug monitoring of plasma nortriptyline concentrations in patients receiving doses which exceed 100 mg daily.
Additional Info	Steady-state plasma concentrations are usually obtained within 7-10 days of starting treatment, although maximum clinical benefit may take up to 4-6 weeks to be achieved.
Concurrent Tests	N/A
Dietary Requirements	N/A
Interpretation	<p>Nortriptyline analysis is not performed by the laboratory at RLUH and samples are referred to an external laboratory.</p> <p>Please contract the laboratory for further advice on interpretation of results.</p>
Collection Conditions	Pre-dose serum (PLAIN TUBE) blood samples should be taken for estimation of trough nortriptyline concentrations.
Frequency of testing	As required.