


Date: July 15, 2022

Lab Alert: Zinc, Selenium and Copper Testing Tube Shortages

Dear Regional Pathology Services Clients,

We are currently experiencing a nationwide shortage of the Metal Free Royal Blue (no additive) tube (TUBE 107) that is used for Copper, Selenium and Zinc serum testing. In response to this shortage we will temporarily accept red top tubes. This will be effective immediately. It is however, recommended that elevated element concentrations be confirmed with a second specimen collected in a certified metal-free tube when available. Elevated concentrations should be interpreted with caution when specimens are collected in noncertified, trace-free blood collection tubes.


[View Details](#)

ID: TUBE107
Metal Free Royal Blue (No additive)
Order Restrict

Copper and Selenium in Serum Testing

Copper ([CUBLD](#)) and Selenium ([SELB](#)) codes are remaining the same.

- Preferred tube
 - Royal Blue tube
- Acceptable
 - Red top tube, centrifuge and separate from cells ASAP or within 2 hours of collection. Transfer 2 mL serum to an ARUP Trace Element-Free Transport Tube.

TUBE123

Aliquot Pour Off Tube (Metal Free, for Metal Test)



Zinc, Serum Testing

This test will be sent out to our reference laboratory as our in-house method is not validated for use with red top tubes. Collect in red top tube or Lavender (EDTA), centrifuge and separate from cells ASAP or within 2 hours of collection. Transfer 2 mL serum or plasma to an ARUP Trace Element-Free Transport Tube

- Test selection is based on the supplies you have on hand at the time of specimen collection
 - If submitting a metal free tube for Zinc testing please use ZINCS (processed in-house)
 - If submitting an alternate EDTA or Red top tube and transferred into a transport tube please order ZINCSP (sent to reference lab)

[ZINCSP](#) interface build info is below:

<u>OrderCode</u>	<u>OrderName</u>	<u>ResultCode</u>	<u>ResultName</u>	<u>Result Units</u>	<u>LOINC</u>	<u>CPT</u>
ZINCSP	ZINC, SER/PLAS	ZINCSP	ZINC, SER/PLAS		5763-8	84630

If you have any questions or issues with these changes please contact client services at 402-559-6420 or reach out to your account manager at <https://www.reglab.org/contact-us/>