



B-Type Natriuretic Peptide (BNP)

B-Type Natriuretic Peptide (BNP) is a member of a class of hormones that regulate blood pressure. The heart is the main source of circulating BNP in humans. The molecule is released into the blood in response to increased heart pressure.

The test is used as an aid in the diagnosis and assessment of severity of congestive heart failure.

BNP will now be tested on the Beckman Coulter DXI800 Immunoassay Analyser at Pathlab BOP and no longer be forwarded to Health Waikato Laboratories. This will ensure that all BNP results from the hospital and community will be compatible.

BNP requests will be batch tested on either Tuesday or Friday.

COLLECTION DETAILS

Plasma (EDTA) is the required sample. Other specimen types will not be accepted.

After collection, the sample should then be centrifuged immediately.

Plasma must then be separated off into a separate plastic tube, fully labelled with the patient's details and sent to the laboratory.

Samples that will not reach the Laboratory within 6 hours of collection must be frozen and sent on ice to the laboratory.

It is important to ensure that the request form contains relevant clinical details as without these details the sample will not be tested. BNP should not be requested within 7 days of a previous request for BNP. BNP should not be requested on routine pre-operative screens

RESULTS

- BNP results less than or equal to 100 ng/L are considered normal and not suggestive of CHF
- BNP results greater than 100 ng/L are considered abnormal and suggestive of CHF

If you have any queries please contact:

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