

Lp (a) [Lipoprotein (a)]

Analyte: Lipoprotein (a)

Specimen Type: Serum, Inquire for additional option(s)

Optimum Volume: 0.5 mL

Stability:

2-8 Degrees C	-20 Degrees C	-70 Degrees C
2 weeks	6 months	4 years

Reporting Units: mg/dL

Method: Immunoturbidimetric

Biological or Clinical Significance:

Lipoprotein (a) [Lp(a)] was discovered as a genetic variant in low density lipoproteins (LDL) in 1963 by Berg (see reference 1). Lp(a) is a lipoprotein whose protein moiety is comprised of two major apolipoproteins, apolipoprotein B-100 (apo B100) and a protein which has not been found in any other lipoprotein and is responsible for unique characteristics of Lp(a), called apolipoprotein(a) [apo(a)]. One molecule of apo B-100 in Lp(a) is covalently linked to apo(a) by a disulfide bond. The analysis of the apo(a) cDNA led to the discovery that apo(a) has a high degree of homology with plasminogen. Components of Lp(a) have similarities to both LDL and plasminogen, suggesting that Lp(a) may represent a bridge between the fields of atherosclerosis and thrombosis. Numerous studies suggested an association of plasma Lp(a) concentrations with atherosclerotic vascular disease.

Principle of Test Method:

The Lp(a) assay is an automated immuoturbidimetric method.

References:

1. Berg, K. A new serum type system in man: the Lp system. Acta Pathol. Microbiol. Scand. 1963; 59: 369-382.