SOLUBLE TRANSFERRIN RECEPTOR (STFR)

Who we are
Majority owned by the NHS, but with the commercial freedom to invest in innovation, Viapath are on a mission to transform pathology services in the UK. We provide pathology services to the NHS, private hospitals and other organisations both across the country and internationally.

What we do
All our laboratories are either accredited or working towards accreditation by UKAS to ISO15189. To view our laboratory accreditation status please follow this link:
http://www.viapath.co.uk/about-viapath/quality-and-governance/accreditations

TEST OVERVIEW

Description
sTfr measured by sandwich enzyme immunoassay by R&D Systems.

Clinical details
"Transferrin receptors are specific cell surface receptors that bind iron-transferrin complexes in the transport of iron in plasma. The number of cell surface Tfr molecules reflects cellular iron requirement. Reduced iron supply results in up-regulation of Tfr synthesis. The soluble transferrin receptor (sTfr) present in plasma is a truncated monomer of the transmembrane receptor. Recent studies have indicated that infections or inflammatory disease per se do not cause any significant change in circulating levels of sTfr. Therefore, unlike ferritin, the clinical interpretation of sTfr measurements is not influenced by ongoing acute phase responses. Clinical situations in which sTfr measurement has been suggested as being especially useful include: 1) distinguishing iron-deficiency anaemia from the anaemia of infection, inflammatory disease or malignancy (anaemia of chronic disease, alcoholic liver disease) 2) recognition of frank iron deficiency especially in pregnancy. Soluble transferrin receptor is elevated in association with hyperplastic erythropoiesis, for example, in patients with haemolytic anaemia or beta-thalassaemia. Recent studies have also suggested that sTfr measurements are helpful when predicting the response to erythropoietin in patients with anaemia resultant from chronic renal failure."

Reference range
The normal range for serum soluble transferring receptor is 8.7 – 28.1 nmol/L for non-blacks residing <300 metres above sea level.

Department
Reference Biochemistry Department

Laboratory
Immunochemistry Laboratory at King’s

Location
Viapath at King’s College Hospital

ORDERING INFORMATION

Sample type and Volume required
Collect blood in a tube containing no additives and allow to clot before centrifuging. A minimum volume of 200µl of serum is required for analysis.

Turnaround time
4 – 6 weeks

Storage and transport
Serum may be stored refrigerated at 4°C. External samples can be transported by 1st class post.

Contacts
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Immunochemistry Laboratory at King’s College Hospital
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How can we help?

We have a number of partnering options to suit your needs, whether you require this specific test or a range of services, we are here to help. Contact one of our friendly Business Development Managers for more information, or visit our website.