



An **NHS** partnership with **SYNLAB**

05/07/2021

Dear Colleagues,

Change of method for androstenedione service to mass spectrometry.

We are contacting you as current users of our androstenedione service at Viapath's Reference Biochemistry laboratory at King's College Hospital to notify you of a method change. From **26th July 2021**, the method will change from immunoassay to analysis using **liquid chromatography-tandem mass spectrometry (LC-MS/MS)**.

A full validation and comparability of assays has been undertaken and is available upon request. Owing to the improved specificity of LC-MS/MS, androstenedione results will typically be 60% lower with the new method, although the relationship between the two assays is not always predictable.

The referral address remains the same:

*Central Specimen Reception
Blood Sciences Laboratory
Viapath Analytics
King's College Hospital
Bessemer Wing - Ground Floor,
Denmark Hill
London SE5 9RS*

The reference ranges for our androstenedione assay by LC-MS/MS are summarised in the table below. Full interpretive guidance will be offered where appropriate.



Pre-pubertal males and females	Post- pubertal/adult males	Post-pubertal/adult females	Units
<0.9	1.5 – 8.3	1.1 – 7.7	nmol/L

Key service information:

- Sample type: serum (unchanged)
- Minimum sample volume: 100 µL
- Specimen transport: 1st class post
- Turnaround time: 7 days

Should you have any questions regarding this change or should you require clinical advice, please feel free to contact the Steroid Laboratory on 0203 299 4131. Information is also available on our website (www.viopath.co.uk).

With very best wishes,

David Taylor | Viapath

Consultant Clinical Scientist

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