

# HIAA 5

## General:

5-HIAA is the main metabolite of serotonin, which is formed from tryptophan. Serotonin is either stored in neurosecretory vesicles or released into the blood circulation system. Most of the serotonin in plasma is used by thrombocytes and biotransformed into 5-HIAA (elevated in carcinoid syndrome). Serotonin has a positive effect on GIT activity especially duodenum and jejunum. Severe diarrheas are observed in carcinoid syndrome. Further symptoms of the carcinoid syndrome are: flush, facial telangiectasis, abdominal convulsions, asthma-like attacks and endocardial fibrosis of the right heart.

Indication: Suspicion of carcinoid syndrome

Material: 10 ml urine /24 h urine with HCL

Preanalytics: please indicate total quantity of the 24 h collection period, pH must be <3, e.g. add 10 ml of concentrated (25%) HCl into the collecting container.

TAT: 5-7 days\*

Method: HPLC

Units: mg/24h

Ref.- range: 2.00 - 9.00

Note: The following substances should be avoided 2 hours before and during the urine collection: methocarbamol, mephenesin carbamate, chlorpromazine and derivatives;

Serotonin-containing food: pineapples, eggplants, avocados, bananas, currants, melons, mirabelles, gooseberries; tomatoes and plums. A serotonin determination should be carried out in EDTA blood if 5-HIAA values in urine are increased.

For complete list of laboratory test offered at Freiburg Medical Laboratory, please visit <http://www.fml-dubai.com/parameter-listings/>