

Mercury Hg

General:

Mercury steams can develop at room temperature. Both inhalation and oral intake is toxic for humans. Acute poisoning presents with headache, dizziness, trembling, sight and hearing disorders, mucous membrane inflammations, stomach and intestinal colics, metal taste in the mouth, bloody diarrhea, vomiting, kidney failure, blood pressure drop and collapse. A dose of approx. 150-300 mg of mercury is lethal. The toxicity is based on enzyme blocking. The kidneys and neurons are mainly damaged. In chronic mercury intoxication (permanent exposure to small quantities) the symptoms manifest as tiredness, head and rheumatic pain, inflammations in the mucous membrane of the mouth, trembling, and disturbances in the central nervous system up to death. Amalgam fillings have been controversially discussed.

The following tests are available:

- **Mercury in EDTA blood**

Indication: Suspicion of intoxication

Material: 3 ml EDTA blood

TAT: 5-7 days*

Method: AAS

Units: µg/l

Ref.- range: see report

- **Mercury in urine**

Indication: Suspicion of intoxication, increased mercury load

Material: 10 ml urine

Preanalytics: 24 hour urine without additives, prior to Dimaval test, spontaneous urine is sufficient.

TAT: 7-10 days*

Method: AAS

Units: µg/l

Ref.- range: see report

For complete list of laboratory test offered at Freiburg Medical Laboratory, please visit

<http://www.fml-dubai.com/parameter-listings/>