

# Amitriptyline

## General:

Amitriptyline belongs to the tricyclic antidepressants. The metabolite nortriptyline is predominantly effective. The half-life of amitriptyline is 10–75 hours, that of nortriptyline is 12–90 hours. Depressions are the main application area. Besides a stimulation of the sympathetic nervous system, acute sympatholytic effects (orthostatic circulation regulation perturbations, tachycardia etc.) appear at higher dosage. Mouth dryness, urinating difficulties etc. are characteristic anticholinergic effects. The following symptoms are observed in intoxication: arrhythmias, vestibular tachycardia and AV block, excitement, hallucinations, hyperacusis, cramps, fever, coma.

The following tests are available:

- **Amitriptyline in blood**

Indication: Therapy monitoring

Material: 1 ml serum (tube without gel)

Preanalytics: blood collection before medication

TAT: 7-10 days\*

Method: LCMS

Units: µg/l

Ref.- range: 80-200, toxic >300

- **Amitriptyline in urine**

Indication: Therapy monitoring

Material: 10 ml urine

TAT: 7-10 days\*

Method: GCMS

Ref.-range: see report

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