

# Vasoactive Intestinal Polypeptide, VIP

## General:

Vasoactive intestinal peptide also known as the vasoactive intestinal polypeptide or VIP is a peptide hormone containing 28 amino acid residues that is produced in many tissues of vertebrates including the gut, pancreas and suprachiasmatic nuclei of the hypothalamus in the brain. VIP stimulates contractility in the heart, causes vasodilation, increases glycogenolysis, lowers arterial blood pressure and relaxes the smooth muscle of trachea, stomach and gall bladder. The vasoactive intestinal peptide is encoded by the VIP gene. VIP has a half-life in the blood of about two minutes.

VIP is overproduced in **VIPoma** and can be associated with **Multiple Endocrine Neoplasia Type 1** (Pituitary, parathyroid and pancreatic tumors). Symptoms are typically: Profuse non-bloody/non-mucoid diarrhea causing dehydration and the associated electrolyte disturbances such as hypokalemia and contraction metabolic alkalosis. Lethargy and exhaustion may ensue.

Material: 2 ml EDTA Plasma, **Frozen**

- Pre-analytics:
1. Due to a very short half-life time of VIP, please withdraw EDTA blood and completely fill up the special Aprotinin vial (= contains trasylol stabilizer) with 4 ml EDTA blood. Special vials with aprotinine (=trasylol stabilizer) can be requested.
  2. Gently but thoroughly mix the special vial and centrifuge immediately
  3. After centrifugation fill the aprotinine-stabilized EDTA plasma in a second neutral vial (without aprotinine or any other preservatives) and label it with "EDTA plasma trasylol" or "Aprotinine" and freeze it immediately.
  4. Please keep the plasma frozen at least 12 hours before dispatch with any courier and send it on dry ice.

Unacceptable conditions: hemolyzed or non-frozen specimen.

Stability after separation from cells: ambient or refrigerated: unacceptable;  
frozen: 3 months

TAT: 7-10 days\*

Method: RIA

Units: pmol/L

Ref.- range: <30

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