Corewell Health

Corewell Health Laboratory

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Laboratory Bulletin

PHOSPHATIDYLETHANOL (PEth) TESTING UPDATE

Effective Date: December 17, 2025

Beginning December 17th, PEth testing will transition from Mayo Clinic to Corewell Health West Laboratory.

PEth testing is used to detect the use of ethanol or confirm abstinence from ethanol. PEth levels correlate with the amount of alcohol consumed within the previous 2 weeks and may be detected in the blood up to 2 to 4 weeks after excessive alcohol consumption.

Detail	Corewell Health Test	Mayo Test
Test name	Phosphatidylethanol Confirmation, Blood [LAB1232086]	Phosphatidylethanol Confirmation, Blood [LAB1230896]
Turnaround time	2-6 days; Performed Tues/Thurs	2-5 days
Specimen Collection	Whole blood collected in EDTA	Whole blood collected in EDTA
Stability	Refrigerated: 17 days	Frozen (preferred): 28 days Refrigerated: 14 days
Limit of Detection	10 ng/mL	10 ng/mL

The Lab Test Directory will be updated with this information when this testing is implemented

Corewell Health East Laboratory Test Directory

For questions regarding testing, please contact Corewell Health Laboratory Customer Service at **800-551-0488**

Date submitted: December 5, 2025
Submitted by: Sarah Britton, VP, Lab Services; Joe Brown, Director, Business Operations; Dr. Caitlin Schein, Medical Director, Sendouts; Dr. Kang Xiong-Hang, Section Director: Clinical Chemistry

Phosphatidylethanol (PEth) Test Information

Synonyms	PEth, LAB1232086, phosphatidylethanol
Instructions	Draw blood in tubes smaller than 10 mL if possible. Do not centrifuge. Send whole blood specimen in original tube. Do not aliquot.
Specimen Collection Criteria	Do not use alcohol to clean arm. Use alternative (such as Betadine, also known as Povidone Iodine) to cleanse site before specimen collection
Physician Office/Draw Site Specimen Preparation	Transport specimen refrigerated
Specimen Preparation for Courier Transport	1.0 mL whole blood collected in EDTA (Min: 0.5 mL) Transport refrigerated
Rejection Criteria	Leaky specimens, insufficient volume, shared specimens
Performed	Available 2 days a week (Tuesday and Thursday) Usual turnaround time 2-6 days.
Reference Range	<10 ng/mL (none detected)
Test Methodology	Liquid Chromatography Tandem Mass Spectrometry (LC-MS/MS)
Interpretation	Less than 10 ng/mL: Not detected 10-19 ng/mL: Abstinence or light alcohol consumption (<2 drinks per day for several days a week) 20-200 ng/mL: Moderate alcohol consumption (up to 4 drinks per day for several days a week) Greater than 200 ng/mL: Heavy alcohol consumption or chronic alcohol use (at least 4 drinks per day several days a week)
CPT Code	G0480