

July 23, 2026



Laboratory Update

Measles & CADE, PT217 Alzheimer's Testing, & Aliquoting Plasma

Measles Reminder: With measles cases increasing across the United States, the MercyOne Laboratory team would like to remind providers that suspected measles cases must be reported to the Iowa Department of Health & Human Services Center for Acute Disease Epidemiology (CADE) before testing can be performed. To obtain measles testing through the State Hygienic Laboratory, providers must contact CADE at (515) 242-5935 (during business hours), (515) 323-4360 (non-business hours), (800) 362-2736 to report the case and receive testing guidance. Prompt reporting helps ensure appropriate public health responses and disease surveillance throughout Iowa. Check out the live links on the PDF attached to this email for more info about CADE and specimen collection requirements through the State Hygienic Laboratory.

- [Center for Acute Disease Epidemiology | Health & Human Services](#)
- [State Hygienic Laboratory | The University of Iowa](#)

Phosphorylated Tau 217



Early recognition of Alzheimer's disease is becoming increasingly important as new treatment options and care pathways emerge. The Phosphorylated Tau 217 (pTau217) blood test offers family practice providers an evidence-based tool to help identify patients who may require additional evaluation while reducing reliance on costly and invasive procedures.

Consider pTau217 testing in patients who present with: Subjective memory complaints, mild cognitive impairment, unexplained cognitive changes, or family concerns regarding early dementia symptoms.

Results can help determine whether Alzheimer's disease pathology is likely contributing to cognitive symptoms and supports clinical decision-making. Elevated pTau217 levels can be detected years before significant clinical decline, helping identify patients who may benefit from further evaluation and treatment planning.

Specimen Type & Stability: EDTA Plasma (Volume: 1mL) & 14 days (Refrigerated)

MercyOne Lab test code: [LAB10437].

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Sample Aliquots

When a primary tube is aliquoted into a secondary tube, it is important that the original tube is clearly identified. This can be done by writing the parent tube type on the label and/or requisition. In some cases, samples must be rejected when it cannot be determined whether the specimen is plasma or serum. To help prevent delays and sample rejection, please ensure tubes are clearly identified by including the appropriate tube color.

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