TEST: **FERRITIN**

**PRINCIPLE:**
Ferritin functions as an intracellular site of iron storage. Clinically significant concentrations are found in serum, and the concentration of serum ferritin is directly related to total body iron stores. Serum ferritin concentrations are determined to evaluate iron stores in normal patients, patients with iron deficiency and iron overload, and to monitor the response to iron therapy. The clinical use of the ferritin measurements have been extensively reviewed.

**SPECIMEN REQUIREMENTS:**
2ml serum collected in a red top tube with no additive or in a serum separator tube (gel barrier). Serum should be separated from the clot as soon as possible to avoid hemolysis. Store/transport sample at room temperature (15-30°C) for no longer than 8 hours or at 2-8°C for up 48 hours. If testing is further delayed, sera should be frozen at -20°C or lower. Avoid repeat freeze-thaw cycles.

**METHOD:**
Enhanced Chemiluminescence.

**REFERENCES:**

**Normal range:**
Normal Female: 11.0–306.8 ng/mL
Normal Male: 23.9–336.2 ng/mL

**Turnaround time:** One Week