ATLAS
Bion Chemistry

Copper

INDICATION

Copper is a co-factor of different enzymes such as cytochrome oxidase, tyrosinase, uricase. It is involved in iron metabolism, promoting its intestinal uptake, and its mobility from storage tissue.
A decrease level of copper is correlated to a decreased level of proteins in the serum, therefore in case of inadequate nutrition or not correct uptake (celiac disease, sprue), loss of protein through faeces or urine (nephritic syndrome), or in Wilson disease. An increase of copper level occurs in pregnancy, acute or chronic infections, surgery, myocardium infarction, iperthyroidism, and haematological diseases.

METHOD PRINCIPLE

Copper (Cu^{++}) reacts with the chromogen Di-Br-PAESA at room temperature yielding a coloured complex which intensity is proportional to the Copper concentration present in the sample.
The method does not require serum deproteinisation either sample blank.

COMPOSITION

REAGENT A:

Acetate buffer, pH 4.9	100 mmol/l
Reducing agents and preservatives	
3,5 Di-Br-PAESA	0.02 g/l
Preservatives	

STANDARD:	1x5 ml
Sulphate Copper	200 µg/dl as Cu^{++} ion

PREPARATION OF REAGENTS

Bireagent procedure:
The reagent is liquids ready to use.

Storage and stability
Store at 2-8 °C. Do not freeze the reagents! The reagents are stable up to the expiry date stated on the label if contamination and evaporation are avoided, protected from light. The above conditions are valid if the vials are opened just only for the time to take the reagent, closed immediately with their cap and stored at the indicated conservation temperature

ANCILLARY EQUIPMENT

- Automatic pipettes
- Photometer
- Analysis cuvettes (optical path = 1 cm)
- NaCl solution 9 g/l

SAMPLES

Serum, plasma with heparin, do not use chelating agents as anticoagulant or haemolysed samples.
Stable 8 days at 2-8 °C.

Specimen collection / Preanalytical factors
It is recommended that specimen collection should be carried out in accordance with NCCLS Document H11-A3.

INTERNAL QUALITY CONTROL

It is recommended to use commercial Quality Control sera with known Copper concentration. Check that the values obtained are within the reference range provided.

ANALYTICAL PROCEDURE

Allow the reagents to reach working temperature before using.

procedure

Pipette into disposable or well clean cuvettes:

	Blank	Standard	Sample
Standard	-	50 µl	-
Sample	-	-	50 µl
Distilled H_2O	50 µl	-	-
Working reagent	1000 µl	1000 µl	1000 µl
Mix and incubate for **10 minutes** at **room temperature** (20-25 °C). Read the absorbance (A) of standard and samples at **580 (570-590) nm** against Blank. Colour is stable for 30 minutes.			

Note:
- Reaction volumes may be proportionally changed.
- It is possible to read the absorbance at 600 nm. In this case the values will be 30% lower than the ones obtained at the 570-590 nm range.

CALCULATION OF RESULTS

Utilize the following formula:

$$\text{Copper, } \mu g/dl = \frac{\text{A sample}}{\text{A standard}} \times 200$$

REFERENCE VALUES

Men:	80 ÷ 140 µg/dl
Women:	80 ÷ 155 µg/dl
Newborn:	12 ÷ 67 µg/dl
Children up to 10 years:	30 ÷ 150 µg/dl

Each laboratory should establish reference ranges for its own patients population.

ANALYTICAL PERFORMANCES

Precision
Within-run and between-run coefficients of variation have been calculated on replicates of three samples at different Copper concentrations. The obtained results are reported in the following tables:

Within-run				
Sample	**n**	**Mean (µg/dl)**	**SD**	**%CV**
Serum # 1	10	69	2.55	3.7
Serum # 2	10	189	4.54	2.4
Serum # 3	10	438	14.45	3.3

Between-run				
Sample	**n**	**Mean (µg/dl)**	**SD**	**%CV**
Serum # 1	10	68	3.01	4.4
Serum # 2	10	187	5.94	3.2
Serum # 3	10	417	11.91	2.9

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Linearity
The assay is linear up to 500 µg/dl.

Sensitivity
Test sensitivity, in terms of detection limit, is 5 µg/dl.

Correlation
A study based comparing this method with atomic absorption method gave the following results:

y = 1.028x + 1.698 µg/dl r = 0.936

Interferences
Highly lipemic sera may interfere in the assay; it is recommended to centrifuge or filter (with membranes of 0.2 µm) the sample.
Do not use haemolysed serum since haemoglobin interferes.
Bilirubin does not interfere up to 20 mg/dl.

PRECAUTIONS IN USE

The reagents contain inactive components such as preservatives (Sodium azide or others), surfactants etc. The total concentration of these components is lower than the limits reported by 67/548/ECC and 88/379/EEC directives about classification, packaging and labelling of dangerous substances. However, the reagents should be handled with caution, avoiding swallowing and contact with skin, eyes and mucous membranes.
The use of the laboratory reagents according to good laboratory practice is recommended.

Waste Management
Please refer to local legal requirements.

SYMBOLS USED

IVD **For in vitro diagnostic medical use**

LOT **Batch Code**

Use by

Temperature limitation

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