

Amylase – [Any Body Fluid] Analysis

Objective

The objective of this test is to measure amylase enzyme activity in various body fluids (e.g., serum, urine, pleural fluid, peritoneal fluid). Amylase testing helps diagnose conditions such as acute pancreatitis, pancreatic duct obstruction, and other pancreatic or abdominal pathologies.

Materials and Methods

Materials:

- Body fluid sample (serum, urine, pleural, or ascitic fluid)
- Amylase assay reagents (e.g., colorimetric or enzymatic kits)
- Automated biochemical analyzer or spectrophotometer
- Standard laboratory equipment (pipettes, centrifuge)

Methods:

1. Sample Collection: Collect the appropriate body fluid under sterile conditions.
2. Enzyme Measurement: Perform amylase assay using enzymatic or kinetic colorimetric methods.
3. Quality Control: Use standard controls and calibration solutions for reliable results.
4. Interpretation: Compare results with reference ranges for the specific fluid tested; elevated amylase levels in non-serum fluids may suggest fluid leakage from the pancreas or abdominal injury.

Results

- Normal serum amylase: 30–110 U/L (varies by lab)
- Elevated serum or urine amylase: Suggests acute pancreatitis, pancreatic injury, or duct obstruction
- Elevated pleural/peritoneal fluid amylase: Indicates possible pancreatic ascites or gastrointestinal perforation

Conclusion

Amylase testing in various body fluids is a critical diagnostic tool for identifying pancreatic and abdominal disorders. Correlating results with clinical findings and imaging studies ensures accurate diagnosis and treatment planning.