STAT: Amino Acid Profile, Plasma

**Test Code:** BAAST

**Turnaround time:** 1 day  (Turn around time is 4 hrs to 1 day  from date and time of receipt at EGL)

**CPT Codes:** 81479 x1, 82139 x1

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**Condition Description**

Plasma amino acid analysis will detect specific amino acid disorders such as phenylketonuria (PKU), maple syrup urine disease (MSUD), urea cycle defects, non-ketotic hyperglycinemia, and homocystinuria. Quantitative analysis of amino acids can also be performed to monitor established patients diagnosed with metabolic disorders. Plasma amino acid values are compared to age-matched normal values.

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**Indications**

This test is indicated in the case of:

- Patients experiencing a metabolic crisis.
- Evaluation of patients with signs of a possible metabolic condition, such as lethargy, vomiting, and failure to thrive.
- Monitoring known metabolic patients who have been hospitalized and for which a rapid analysis is essential.
- Infants with a positive newborn screening result indicative of a metabolic disorder.

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**Methodology**

Quantitative ion exchange chromatography, reported as micromoles/L.

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**Detection**

This test is very sensitive for specific amino acid disorders, but detection can also be sensitive to the clinical and nutritional status of the patient.

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**Specimen Requirements**

**Type:** Plasma

Specimen Requirements:

In sodium heparin (green top) tube: 1-2 ml

Sample should be collected while fasting or 2-4 hours postprandial.

Centrifuge to separate plasma and freeze.

Specimen Collection and Shipping: Ship frozen sample on dry ice with overnight delivery.

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**Special Instructions**

Please indicate any medications or dietary changes on the test requisition form.

**STAT TESTING MUST BE COORDINATED WITH AND PREAPPROVED BY ONE OF THE DIRECTORS IN THE BIOCHEMICAL GENETICS LABORATORY. Please call 855-831-7447.**

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**Related Tests**

- STAT Organic Acids Quantitative Analysis (BOAST)
- STAT Acylcarnitine Profile (BARST)