**Total Complement (CH50)**

### Clinical Information
- The complement cascade, consisting of ~20 serum proteins, plays an important role in the body’s immunological defense system. Complement activity in human sera can provide important information in the diagnosis of many diseases.
- Clinically, complement activity is a direct indicator of abnormalities of the complement system.
- Complement activity has been correlated with the active stage of systemic lupus erythematosus, rheumatoid arthritis, cryoglobulinemia-vasculitis, some forms of nephritis, and inherited deficiencies of the complement system.

### Test # 11302

**Synonyms**  
CH50

**Category**  
Chemistry

**Indication/Use**  
Detection of abnormalities in the Complement System

### Specimen Requirements

**Specimen**  
Serum

**Volume**  
0.5 mL

**Handling**  
FREEZE immediately and ship FROZEN on dry ice. Sample needs to be spun down as soon as possible after clotting and frozen immediately after transfer to a plastic transfer tube.

### Assay Parameters

**Methodology**  
Immunoassay

**CPT code**  
86162

**Interpretation**  
Reference Range: 40.0-72.0 U/mL

### References
2. Total Complement Activity (CH50) via ADVIA 1800 – Assay Validation, MEDTOX Laboratories, VAL-RPT-1383.