

# SEXING

(FOR MEDICAL  
IMPLICATIONS)

## Orderable – E-order/Requisition

Turnaround Time: 3 months

### Alternate Name(s):

Sex Determination  
Y-marker

### Specimen:

Whole blood-1 x 4 mL Lavender EDTA top Vacutainer tube

### Collection Information:

Blood samples must be maintained at room temperature.

### Reference Ranges:

See report

### Interpretive Comments:

This test will be available for medical indications only, usually to aid in linkage analysis or to clarify prenatal diagnosis and must be referred from the Genetics Clinic.

The tooth enamel gene, amelogenin, is encoded on the short arm of the X chromosome<sup>1</sup>. The Y chromosome, however, bears an amelogenin-like sequence which is shorter by 177bp than that on the X chromosome. Knowing this, it is possible to determine tissue sex status, by PCR amplification followed by sizing with gel electrophoresis, of a fragment of this gene with specific oligonucleotide primers<sup>2</sup>.

### References

1. Lau, E.C., et al. *Genomics* (1989) 4: 162-168
2. Nakahori Y., et al. *A.J.M.G.* (1991) 39: 472-473



**Laboratory:**  
Molecular Diagnostics Lab



**Requisition:**  
[MOLECULAR  
DIAGNOSTICS  
REQUISITION](#)



**Method of Analysis:**  
PCR



**Test Schedule:**  
As required,  
Monday to Friday 0800-  
1600 hours

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## Critical Information Required:

Pedigree required

## Storage and Shipment:

Must be received in testing laboratory within 5 days of collection, shipped at room temperature by courier/overnight delivery.