



190.17 - Prothrombin Time (PT)

Other Names/Abbreviations

PT

Description

Basic plasma coagulation function is readily assessed with a few simple laboratory tests: the Partial Thromboplastin Time (PTT), Prothrombin Time (PT), Thrombin Time (TT), or a quantitative fibrinogen determination. The PT test is one in-vitro laboratory test used to assess coagulation. While the PTT assesses the intrinsic limb of the coagulation system, the PT assesses the extrinsic or tissue factor dependent pathway. Both tests also evaluate the common coagulation pathway involving all the reactions that occur after the activation of factor X. Extrinsic pathway factors are produced in the liver and their production is dependent on adequate vitamin K activity. Deficiencies of factors may be related to decreased production or increased consumption of coagulation factors. The PT/INR is most commonly used to measure the effect of warfarin and regulate its dosing. Warfarin blocks the effect of vitamin K on hepatic production of extrinsic pathway factors.

A PT is expressed in seconds and/or as an international normalized ratio (INR). The INR is the PT ratio that would result if the WHO reference thromboplastin was used in performing the test.

Current medical information does not clarify the role of laboratory PT testing in patients who are self monitoring. Therefore, the indications for testing apply regardless of whether or not the patient is also PT self-testing.

HCPCS Codes (Alphanumeric, CPT® AMA)

Code	Description
85610	Prothrombin Time

ICD-10-CM Codes Covered by Medicare Program

The ICD-10-CM codes in the table below can be viewed on CMS' website as part of Downloads: Lab Code List, at <http://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Coverage/CoverageGenInfo/LabNCDsICD10.html>

Code	Description
A01.00	Typhoid fever, unspecified
A01.01	Typhoid meningitis
A01.02	Typhoid fever with heart involvement
A01.03	Typhoid pneumonia
A01.04	Typhoid arthritis
A01.05	Typhoid osteomyelitis
A01.09	Typhoid fever with other complications