PRINCIPAL OF THE METHOD
Transferin in the sample precipitates in the presence of anti-human transferrin antibodies. The light scattering of the antigen-antibody complexes is proportional to the transferrin concentration and can be measured by turbidimetry.

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<td>A. Reagent</td>
<td>5 x 25 mL</td>
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COMPOSITION

A. Reagent: Imidazole buffer 0.1 mol/L, goat anti-human transferrin antibodies sodium azide 0.95 g/L, pH 7.5.

STORAGE
Store at 2-8°C. The Reagent is stable until the expiry date shown on the label when stored tightly closed and if contaminations are prevented during its use. Indications of deterioration: Presence of particulate material, turbidity, absorbance of the blank over 0.300 at 540 nm.

ADDITIONAL REAGENTS

- Protein Calibrators (BioSystems Cod. 31075). The set contains 5 different levels of transferrin concentration and it should be used to prepare the calibration curve. The calibrators are supplied ready to use.

REAGENT PREPARATION

Reagent is provided ready to use.

ADDITIONAL EQUIPMENT

- Thermostatic water bath at 37°C.
- Analyzer, spectrophotometer or photometer with cell holder thermostatable at 37°C and able to read at 540 ± 20 nm.

SAMPLES

Serum or plasma collected by standard procedures. Use heparin or EDTA as anticoagulants. Lipemic samples are not suitable for testing. Serum or plasma transferrin is stable for 7 days at 2-8°C.

PROCEDURE

1. Bring the Reagent and the instrument to 37°C.
2. Pipet into a cuvette (Note 1):
   - Reagent (A)
   - Distilled water (Blank), Calibrator or Sample
   - 1.0 mL
   - 10 µL
3. Mix and insert cuvette into the instrument. Start stopwatch.
4. Read the absorbance of the Blank, Calibrators and Sample at 540 nm after exactly 5 minutes of Sample addition.

CALCULATIONS

- Calibration curve: Plot the absorbance values of each calibrator against its transferrin concentration. Use the Blank as the calibrator of 0 concentration. Transferrin concentration in the sample is calculated by interpolation of its absorbance on the calibration curve.

REFERENCE VALUES

Serum, adults**: 200 - 360 mg/dL.

This range is given for orientation only; each laboratory should establish its own reference range.

QUALITY CONTROL

It is recommended to use the Protein Control Serum level I (Cod. PR20B) and II (Cod. PR20A) to verify the performance of the measurement procedure.

Each laboratory should establish its own internal Quality Control scheme and procedures for corrective action if controls do not recover within the acceptable tolerances.

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