

## **CARCINOEMBRYONIC ANTIGEN (CEA)**

### **DESCRIPTION**

Carcinoembryonic antigen (CEA) is a protein that is a tumor marker. In Adults, CEA levels are generally very low in the blood but can be elevated in a wide variety of different types of cancers. CEA levels can also be elevated in non-cancer related conditions, such as cirrhosis, peptic ulcer, ulcerative colitis, rectal polyps, and also in smokers. CEA testing is also done to monitor the cancer during treatment.

### **WHY DO I NEED THIS TEST?**

You would want to get this test when you are primarily monitoring your cancer treatment and to see how you are responding to therapy. The CEA test can also be used to help show any possible reoccurrence of cancer.

### **FAQ's**

#### **AM I REQUIRED TO FAST?**

No, fasting is not required. There are no dietary or medicinal restrictions to take this test.

#### **WHAT IS THE SAMPLE REQUIRED?**

A simple venous blood draw

#### **IS A DOCTOR'S ORDER REQUIRED?**

No. You do not need to provide a doctor's order to get lab testing done at Any Lab Test Now.

#### **WHEN WILL I GET MY TEST RESULTS?**

Test results generally take between 3 to 4 business days after your specimen is collected.

#### **DO I NEED TO MAKE AN APPOINTMENT?**

No. You can walk in for same day testing. We make it easy for you by offering work-friendly hours.

#### **IF I HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT MY TESTS RESULTS WHO SHOULD I CONTACT?**

We recommend you share your results with your primary care physician or with your specialist.

**WRITTEN BY:  
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Ekan Essien, MD, MPH, a native Georgian, received his BA from Duke University. Dr. Essien continued his education at Florida A&M University where he received his Masters of Public Health in Epidemiology; received his medical degree from Meharry Medical College in Nashville, Tennessee; and obtained training in general and trauma surgery at Grady Memorial Hospital at Morehouse School of Medicine. He is a candidate in the post graduate fellowship in anti-aging and regenerative medicine from the American Academy of Anti-Aging Medicine.