

# Nortriptyline

## General:

Nortriptyline is a tricyclic antidepressant. As a demethylated metabolite it has a stronger effect than the original substance amitriptyline. The pharmacological mechanism is based on blocking norepinephrine reabsorption. The half-life is 30 hours. Indication is the inhibited depressive syndrome particularly in patients with inclination towards orthostatic dysregulation. The serum availability of nortriptyline shows great fluctuations, i.e. there is no linear relation between plasma concentration and clinical effectiveness. The optimal application is estimated at serum concentrations between 50-150 ng/ml. In rare cases the following side effects can appear: agranulocytosis, liver and kidney malfunctions. Recommendations for further laboratory routine examinations: blood differential (agranulocytosis), urea/creatinine, GOT, GPT,  $\gamma$ -GT.

Indication: Therapy monitoring

Material: 1 ml serum

TAT: 5-7 days\*

Method: LCMS

Units:  $\mu\text{g/l}$

Ref.- range: 70 - 170

For complete list of laboratory test offered at Freiburg Medical Laboratory, please visit <http://www.fml-dubai.com/parameter-listings/>