ALPHA-1-ANTITRYPsin QUANTITATION, SERUM (Nephelometry)

| - | mg/dL | 90.00-200.00 |

**Comments**
Alpha-1-Antitrypsin (AAT) is a protease inhibitor which has the capacity to combine with and inactivate trypsin. It also neutralizes the activity of other proteases like elastase and hence is an intrinsic factor in the homeostatic mechanism modulating endogenous proteolysis. Deficiency of AAT is seen in Pulmonary emphysema and in children with Cirrhosis. At least 75 different alleles exist for AAT of which about 17 alleles are associated with pulmonary disease and only a few are responsible for liver disease. Elevated AAT levels are due to acute phase reaction to inflammation and infections which is not linked to genetic defects. High values are also seen during pregnancy and on oral contraceptives.