

Laboratory In-house Specimen Requirements Job Aide

Chemistry

Order	Preferred Container	Alternate Container	Specimen Stability			Notes
			Ambient	Refrigerated	Frozen	
Acetaminophen Level	Red	Dk G Li Hep	4 hours	7 days	n/a	RVC - 8 hours, 14 days, 45 days
Albumin Level	Lt Green Li	Lt Green Speck, SST, Gold SST, Red, Lt Green Bullet	4 hours	3 days	6 months	RVC- 8 hours, 2 days
Albumin Level Body Fluid	Sterile Cont	n/a	4 hours	3 days	6 months	
Alcohol Level	Lt Green Li	Lt Green Speck, SST, Gold SST, Red, Lt Green Bullet	n/a	3 days, unopened	3 months	Non-alcohol prep
Alcohol Level (RVC Ethyl Alcohol)	Lt Green Li	Lt Green Speck, SST, Gold SST, Red, Lt Green Bullet	2 days	2 weeks	Indefinite	
Alkaline Phosphatase	Lt Green Li	Lt Green Speck, SST, Gold SST, Red, Lt Green Bullet	8 hours	7 days	6 months	
ALT	Lt Green Li	Lt Green Speck, SST, Gold SST, Red, Lt Green Bullet	8 hours	7 days	1 month	
Ammonia Level	Dk G Li Hep	n/a	n/a	30 minutes	1 month	Draw on ice. Lab in <30min.
Amylase Level	Lt Green Li	Lt Green Speck, SST, Gold SST, Red, Lt Green Bullet	7 days	6 months	1 year	
Amylase Level 24 Hr Urine	Urin Cont 24hr	n/a	2 hours	2 days pH adjust	2 weeks	
Amylase Level Body Fluid	Sterile Cont	n/a	7 days	6 months	1 year	
Amylase Level Urine	Urine Yellow	n/a	2 hours	2 days, pH adjust	2 weeks	
AST	Lt Green Li	Lt Green Speck, SST, Gold SST, Red, Lt Green Bullet	3 days	7 days	1 month	
Ast/ld	Lt Green Li	SST, Gold SST, Red	3 days	n/a	n/a	
Basic Metabolic Panel	Lt Green Li	Lt Green Speck, SST, Gold SST, Red, Lt Green Bullet	2 hours	3 days	3 months	Includes Gluc, BUN, Creat, NA, K, Cl, CO2, Anion Gap, Calcium RVC- 2 days refrigerated
Beta Hydroxybutyrate (BOH, B-OH)	Lt Green Li	Lt Green Speck, SST, Gold SST, Red, Lt Green Bullet	8 hours	1 week	n/a	
Bilirubin Fractionation	Lt Green Li	SST, Gold SST, Red	4 hours	5 days	3 months	Protect from light. RVC- 8 hours, 7 days, 6 months
Bilirubin Total	Lt Green Li	Lt Green Speck, SST, Gold SST, Red, Lt Green Bullet	4 hours	5 days	6 months	Protect from light. RVC- 8 hours, 7 days, 6 months
Bilirubin, Direct	Lt Green Li	Lt Green Speck, SST, Gold SST, Red, Lt Green Bullet	4 hours	5 days	3 months	Protect from light. RVC- 8 hours, 7 days, 6 months
Bilirubin, Indirect	Lt Green Li	Lt Green Speck, SST, Gold SST, Red, Lt Green Bullet	4 hours	5 days	3 months	Protect from light. RVC- 8 hours, 7 days, 6 months
Blood Urea Nitrogen	Lt Green Li	Lt Green Speck, SST, Gold SST, Red, Lt Green Bullet	5 days	7 days	Indefinite	
Calcium Level 24 Hour Urine	Urin Cont 24hr	n/a	2 hours	7 days	6 months	

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Calcium Level Total	Lt Green Li	Lt Green Speck, SST, Gold SST, Red, Lt Green Bullet	2 hours	7 days	6 months	RVC- 8 hours, 2 days
Calcium Level Urine	Urine Yellow	n/a	2 hours	7 days	6 months	
Calcium/Creatinine Ratio Urine	Urin Cont 24hr	n/a	2 hours	4 days	6 months	
Cannabinoids	Urine Yellow	Sterile Cont	1 hour	24 hours	1 year	
Carbamazepine Level	Red	Dk G Li Hep	4 hours	7 days	n/a	
Carbon Dioxide Level	Lt Green Li	Lt Green Speck, SST, Gold SST, Red, Lt Green Bullet				Keep capped until ready to run. Stability is 1 hour after uncapped.
Carbon Dioxide level (RVC ECO2)	Lt Green Li	Lt Green Speck, SST, Gold SST, Red, Lt Green Bullet	8 hours	2 days	6 months	
CEA	Tall Gold	SST, Gold SST	8 hours	48 hours	6 months	
Chloride Level	Lt Green Li	Lt Green Speck, SST, Gold SST, Red, Lt Green Bullet	7 days	7 days	1 year	
Chloride Level 24 Hour Urine	Urin Cont 24hr	n/a	2 hours	7 days	1 year	
Chloride Level Urine	Urine Yellow	n/a	2 hours	7 days	1 year	
Cholesterol Level Body Fluid	Sterile Cont	n/a	8 hours	7 days	3 months	
Cholesterol Total	Lt Green Li	Lt Green Speck, SST, Gold SST, Red, Lt Green Bullet	8 hours	7 days	3 months	
CK/Troponin	Lt Green Li	Lt Green Speck SST, Gold SST, Red	8 hours	2 days	29 days	
Comprehensive Metabolic Panel	Lt Green Li	Lt Green Speck, SST, Gold SST, Red, Lt Green Bullet	2 hours	3 days	3 months	Includes Gluc, BUN, Creat, NA, K, Cl, CO2 (1 hr uncapped), Ca, ALP, ALT, AST, ALB, TP, TBIL RVC - 8 hours, 2 days, 3 months
Cortisol	Tall Gold	Gold SST, Red	8 hours	48 hours	6 months	
Cortisol 0 Min	Tall Gold	Gold SST, Red	8 hours	48 hours	6 months	
Cortisol 30 Min	Tall Gold	Gold SST, Red	8 hours	48 hours	6 months	
Cortisol 60 Min	Tall Gold	Gold SST, Red	8 hours	48 hours	6 months	
C-Reactive Protein	Lt Green Li	SST, Gold SST, Red, Lt Green Bullet	4 hours	7 days	8 months	
C-Reactive Protein High Sensitivity (CV Risk)	Lt Green Li	SST, Gold SST, Red, Lt Green Bullet	8 hours	7 days	8 months	
Creatine Kinase	Lt Green Li	Lt Green Speck, SST, Gold SST, Red, Lt Green Bullet, Tall Gold	8 hours	7 days	1 month	
Creatinine	Lt Green Li	Lt Green Speck, SST, Gold SST, Red, Lt Green Bullet	24 hours	7 days	3 months	RVC- 48 hours refrigerated
Creatinine 24 Hour Urine	Urin Cont 24hr	n/a	2 hours	4 days	6 months	
Creatinine Body Fluid	Sterile Cont	n/a	2 hours	24 hours	1 month	

Order	Preferred Container	Alternate Container	Specimen Stability			Notes
			Ambient	Refrigerated	Frozen	
Creatinine Clearance	Urin Cont 24hr	n/a	2 hours	4 days	6 months	Must include blood creatinine.
Creatinine Urine	Urine Yellow	n/a	2 hours	4 days	6 months	
Digoxin Level	Red	Dk G Li Hep	8 hours	7 days	6 months	
Drugs of Abuse Screen, Urine with reflex to Confirmation	Urine Yellow	Sterile Cont	1 hour	24 hours	1 year	
Electrolyte Panel	Lt Green Li	Lt Green Speck, SST, Gold SST, Red, Lt Green Bullet	7 days	7 days	1 year	
Ferritin	Lt Green Li	Lt Green Speck, SST, Gold SST, Red, Lt Green Bullet, Tall Gold	8 hours	7 days	6 months	
Folate Lvl	Lt Green Li	Lt Green Speck, SST, Gold SST, Red, Lt Green Bullet, Tall Gold	2 hours	8 hours	1 month	Protect from light
Free T4	Lt Green Li	Lt Green Speck, SST, Gold SST, Red, Lt Green Bullet	24 hours	14 days	3 months	
FSH	Tall Gold	Gold SST	8 hours	48 hours	6 months	
Gentamicin Level, Peak	Red	Dk G Li Hep	4 hours	7 days	n/a	1 hour post dosage
Gentamicin Level, Trough	Red	Dk G Li Hep	4 hours	7 days	n/a	Pre-dosage
Gentamicin, Random Level	Red	Dk G Li Hep	4 hours	7 days	n/a	
GGT(Gamma Glutamyl Transferase)	Lt Green Li	Lt Green Speck, SST, Gold SST, Red, Lt Green Bullet	7 days	7 days	6 months	
Glucose 1 Hour	Lt Green Li	Lt Green Speck, SST, Gold SST, Red, Lt Green Bullet	8 hours	3 days	6 months	
Glucose 2 Hour	Lt Green Li	Lt Green Speck, SST, Gold SST, Red, Lt Green Bullet	8 hours	3 days	6 months	
Glucose 2 Hour-75g	Lt Green Li	Lt Green Speck, SST, Gold SST, Red, Lt Green Bullet	8 hours	3 days	6 months	
Glucose 3 Hour	Lt Green Li	Lt Green Speck, SST, Gold SST, Red, Lt Green Bullet	8 hours	3 days	6 months	
Glucose 4 Hour	Lt Green Li	Lt Green Speck, SST, Gold SST, Red, Lt Green Bullet	8 hours	3 days	6 months	
Glucose 5 Hour	Lt Green Li	Lt Green Speck, SST, Gold SST, Red, Lt Green Bullet	8 hours	3 days	6 months	
Glucose 6 Hour	Lt Green Li	Lt Green Speck, SST, Gold SST, Red, Lt Green Bullet	8 hours	3 days	6 months	
Glucose Level	Lt Green Li	Lt Green Speck, SST, Gold SST, Red, Lt Green Bullet	8 hours	3 days	6 months	
Glucose Level Body Fluid	Sterile Cont	n/a	8 hours	3 days	6 months	
Glucose Level, CSF	Sterile Cont	n/a	8 hours	3 days	6 months	
Glucose Tolerance Test 1 Hour	Lt Green Li	Lt Green Speck, SST, Gold SST, Red, Lt Green Bullet	8 hours	3 days	6 months	
Glucose, Fasting Plasma	Lt Green Li	Lt Green Speck, SST, Gold SST, Red, Lt Green Bullet	8 hours	3 days	6 months	
Haptoglobin	Lt Green Li	Lt Green Speck, SST, Gold SST, Red, Lt Green Bullet	8 hours	7 days	3 months	
HCG, Beta Qual, Serum	Lt Green Li	Lt Green Speck, SST, Gold SST, Red, Lt Green Bullet	24 hours	7 days	2 months	RVC- 48 hours refrigerated
HCG, Beta Quant, Serum	Lt Green Li	Lt Green Speck, SST, Gold SST, Red, Lt Green Bullet	24 hours	7 days	2 months	RVC- 48 hours refrigerated

Order	Preferred Container	Alternate Container	Specimen Stability			Notes
			Ambient	Refrigerated	Frozen	
HDL Cholesterol	Lt Green Li	Lt Green Speck, SST, Gold SST, Red, Lt Green Bullet	8 hours	7 days	3 months	Patient fasting 12 hours
Hemoglobin A1c (Glycosylated)	Lavender	n/a	3 days	7 days	n/a	Do not freeze
Hepatic (Liver) Function Panel - LFTs	Lt Green Li	Lt Green Speck, SST, Gold SST, Red, Lt Green Bullet	4 hours	3 days	1 month	Includes ALP, ALT, AST, ALB, DBIL, TBIL, TP RVC - 8 hours, 2 days, 1 month
Hepatitis B Surface Antigen	Tall Gold	Red	24 hours	14 days	6 months	Fill tube completely
HIV Screen-1/O/2 Ab / p24 Ag	Tall Gold	Gold SST	24 hours	14 days	8 months	Fill tube completely
Homocysteine Level	Pink	Lavender	n/a	48 hours	13 weeks	On ice. Deliver immediately.
Insulin, fasting	Tall Gold	Gold SST, Red	8 hours	8 hours	6 months	
Iron Level	Lt Green Li	Lt Green Speck, SST, Gold SST, Red, Lt Green Bullet, Tall Gold	8 hours	7 days	6 months	
Iron Level and TIBC	Lt Green Li	Lt Green Speck, SST, Gold SST, Red	8 hours	7 days	6 months	
Lactate Dehydrogenase	Lt Green Li	Lt Green Speck, SST, Gold SST, Red, Lt Green Bullet	3 days	n/a	n/a	
Lactic Acid Body Fluid	Sterile Cont	n/a	15 minutes	n/a	n/a	
Lactic Acid, CSF	Sterile Cont	n/a	2 hours	2 days	6 months	
Lactic Acid, Plasma (Venous)	Grey	n/a	15 minutes	24 hours	1 month	Draw on ice. Lab in <15 minutes. No tourniquet.
LDH Body Fluid	Sterile Cont	n/a	3 days	n/a	n/a	
LDL, Direct	Lt Green Li	Lt Green Speck, SST, Gold SST, Red, Lt Green Bullet	24 hours	3 days	1 month	Patient fasting 12 hours
Lidocaine	Red	Dk G Li Hep	70 days	70 days	1 year	
Lipase Level	Lt Green Li	Lt Green Speck, SST, Gold SST, Red, Lt Green Bullet	24 hours	7 days	12 months	
Lipid Panel (Chol, Trig, HDL, LDL, VLDL)	Lt Green Li	Lt Green Speck, SST, Gold SST, Red, Lt Green Bullet, Tall Gold	4 hours	7 days	3 months	Includes Chol, HDL, Trig
Lipid Panel with Rflx Direct LDL	Lt Green Li	Lt Green Speck, SST, Gold SST, Red, Lt Green Bullet, Tall Gold	4 hours	7 days	3 months	Includes Chol, HDL, Trig
Lithium Level	Red	Dk G Na, Red Bullet	24 hours	7 days	6 months	12 hours post-dose collection recommended.
Luteinizing Hormone	Tall Gold	Gold SST, Red	8 hours	48 hours	6 months	
Magnesium Level	Lt Green Li	Lt Green Speck, SST, Gold SST, Red, Lt Green Bullet	7 days	7 days	12 months	
Microalbumin Level 24 Hour Urine	Urin Cont 24hr	n/a	2 hours	48 hours	n/a	

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			Ambient	Refrigerated	Frozen	
Microalbumin,U	Urine Yellow	n/a	2 hours	48 hours	n/a	
N-Terminal Pro B-Type Natriuretic Peptide	Lt Green Li	Lt Green Speck, SST, Gold SST, Red, Lt Green Bullet	3 days	3 days	12 months	
Osmolality Urine	Urine Yellow	Sterile Container	24 hours	24 hours	n/a	
Osmolality, Serum	Tall Gold	Gold SST	48 hours	48 hours	n/a	
Parathyroid Hormone Intact, Intraoperative/Post Operative	Tall Gold	Gold SST, Lavender, Pink	4 hours	48 hours	n/a	EDTA stability: 8 hours, 72 hours, 8 months (-70 C)
Parathyroid Hormone, Intact	Tall Gold	Gold SST, Lavender, Pink	4 hours	48 hours	n/a	EDTA stability: 8 hours, 72 hours, 8 months (-70 C)
pH Body Fluid	Sterile Cont	n/a	2 hours	8 hours	n/a	
Phenobarbital Level	Red	Dk G Li Hep	2 days	30 days	3 months	
Phenytoin Level	Red	Dk G Li Hep	4 hours	2 days	6 months	RVC- 24 hours, 2 days, 5 months
Phosphorus Level	Lt Green Li	Lt Green Speck, SST, Gold SST, Red, Lt Green Bullet	8 hours	7 days	3 months	RVC- 8 hours, 7 days, 3 months
Potassium Level	Lt Green Li	Lt Green Speck, SST, Gold SST, Red, Lt Green Bullet	7 days	7 days	1 year	
Potassium Level 24 Hour Urine	Urin Cont 24hr	n/a	2 hours	7 days	1 year	
Potassium Urine	Urine Yellow	n/a	2 hours	7 days	1 year	
Prealbumin, Serum	Lt Green Li	Lt Green Speck, SST, Gold SST, Red, Lt Green Bullet	2 hours	7 days	1 year	
Procalcitonin	Lt Green Li	n/a	4 hours	48 hours	6 months	
Progesterone Level	Tall Gold	Gold SST, Red	8 hours	2 days	6 months	
Prolactin	Tall Gold	Gold SST, Red	8 hours	2 days	6 months	
Protein 24 Hour Urine	Urin Cont 24hr	n/a	2 hours	3 days	6 months	
Protein Body Fluid	Sterile Cont	n/a	8 hours	3 days	6 months	
Protein Urine	Urine Yellow	n/a	2 hours	3 days	6 months	
Protein, CSF	Sterile Cont	n/a	8 hours	3 days	6 months	
Protein, Total	Lt Green Li	Lt Green Speck, SST, Gold SST, Red, Lt Green Bullet	8 hours	3 days	6 months	
Protein/Creatinine Ratio Urine	Urin Cont 24hr	n/a	2 hours	3 days	6 months	
PSA Screening	Tall Gold	Gold SST, Red	8 hours	48 hours	6 months	
PSA, Diagnostic	Tall Gold	Gold SST, Red	8 hours	48 hours	6 months	
Renal Function Panel	Lt Green Li	Lt Green Speck, SST, Gold SST, Red, Lt Green Bullet	2 hours	3 days	3 months	Includes Gluc, BUN, Creat, NA, K, Cl, CO2, Anion Gap, Ca, Albumin, Phos RVC- 8 hours, 2 days, 3 months

Order	Preferred Container	Alternate Container	Specimen Stability			Notes
			Ambient	Refrigerated	Frozen	
Rheumatoid Factor	Lt Green Li	Lt Green Speck, SST, Gold SST, Red, Lt Green Bullet	4 hours	7 days	3 months	
Rubella AB, IgG	Tall Gold	Gold SST, Red	8 hours	7 days	6 months	
Salicylate Level	Red	Dk G Li Hep	7 days	2 weeks	6 months	
Sodium Level	Lt Green Li	Lt Green Speck, SST, Gold SST, Red, Lt Green Bullet	7 days	7 days	1 year	
Sodium Level 24 Hour Urine	Urin Cont 24hr	n/a	2 hours	7 days	1 year	
Sodium Urine	Urine Yellow	n/a	2 hours	7 days	1 year	
Testosterone	Tall Gold	Gold SST, Red	48 hours	7 days	>7 days	
Theophylline Level	Red	Dk G Li Hep	4 hours	7 days	6 months	
Thyroid Cascade	Tall Gold	Lt Green Li	8 hours	1 week	6 months	
Thyroid Stimulating Hormone	Lt Green Li	Lt Green Speck, SST, Gold SST, Red	8 hours	1 week	6 months	
Tobramycin Level, Peak	Red	Dk G Li Hep	8 hours	3 days	1 month	
Tobramycin Level, Random	Red	Dk G Li Hep	8 hours	3 days	1 month	
Tobramycin Level, Trough	Red	Dk G Li Hep	8 hours	3 days	1 month	
Total Binding Iron Capacity	Lt Green Li	Lt Green Speck, SST, Gold SST, Red, Lt Green Bullet, Tall Gold	2 hours	7 days	6 months	
Total T4 Level	Lt Green Li	Lt Green Speck, SST, Gold SST, Red, Lt Green Bullet	7 days	7 days	30 days	
Tricyclic Screen, Urine	Sterile Cont	n/a	1 hour	2 days	1 month	
Triglyceride Body Fluid	Sterile Cont	n/a	4 hours	7 days	3 months	
Triglycerides	Lt Green Li	Lt Green Speck, SST, Gold SST, Red, Lt Green Bullet	4 hours	7 days	3 months	
Troponin-I (cardiac marker)	Lt Green Li	Lt Green Speck, SST, Gold SST, Red, Lt Green Bullet	2 hours	2 days	8 weeks	RVC-8 hours Ambient
T-Uptake	Lt Green Li	Lt Green Speck, SST, Gold SST, Red, Lt Green Bullet	8 hours	2 days	1 year	
Urea Clearance	Urin Cont 24hr	n/a	2 hours	4 days	n/a	BUN also required
Urea Nitrogen 24 Hour Urine	Urin Cont 24hr	n/a	2 hours	4 days	n/a	
Urea Nitrogen Urine	Urine Yellow	n/a	2 hours	4 days	n/a	
Urea Nitrogen, Dialysate	Sterile Cont	n/a	2 hours	4 days	n/a	
Urea/Creatinine Ratio Urine	Urin Cont 24hr	n/a	2 hours	4 days	n/a	
Uric Acid	Lt Green Li	Lt Green Speck, SST, Gold SST, Red, Lt Green Bullet	8 hours	5 days	6 months	
Urine Electrolytes	Urine Yellow	n/a	2 hours	7 days	1 year	
Urine Electrolytes 24 Hour Urine	Urin Cont 24hr	n/a	2 hours	7 days	1 year	

Order	Preferred Container	Alternate Container	Specimen Stability			Notes
			Ambient	Refrigerated	Frozen	
Valproic Acid Level	Red	Dk G Li Hep	2 hours	8 days	2 months	
Vancomycin Level, Trough	Red	Dk G Li Hep	8 hours	2 days	1 month	
Vancomycin, Random Level	Red	Dk G Li Hep	8 hours	2 days	1 month	
Vitamin B12 Level	Lt Green Li	Lt Green Speck, SST, Gold SST, Red, Lt Green Bullet, Tall Gold	24 hours	48 hours	1 month	Protect from light
Vitamin D 25 Hydroxy Level	Tall Gold	Gold SST, Red	24 hours	7 days	6 months	

Coagulation

Order	Preferred Container	Alternate Container	Specimen Stability			Notes
			Ambient	Refrigerated	Frozen	
Anti-Xa	Blue Top	n/a	2 hours	n/a	n/a	Fill tube completely.
Antithrombin III	Blue Top	n/a	8 hours	n/a	1 month	Fill tube completely.
DDimer, Quantitative	Blue Top	n/a	8 hours	n/a	1 month	Whole Blood- 1 hour ambient. If transport >8 hours, separate and freeze.
Fibrinogen Lvl	Blue Top	n/a	8 hours	n/a	1 month	Whole Blood- 4 hours ambient. Fill tube completely.
Partial Thromboplastin Time	Blue Top	n/a	4 hours	4 hours	2 weeks	Fill tube completely.
Prothrombin Time and INR	Blue Top	n/a	8 hours	n/a	2 weeks	Whole Blood- 24 hours ambient, unopened. Fill tube completely. Do not refrigerate plasma.
PT Mixing Study	Blue Top	n/a	8 hours	n/a	n/a	Fill tube completely.
PT/PTT	Blue Top	n/a	4 hours	n/a	2 weeks	Whole Blood- 4 hours ambient. Fill tube completely. Do not refrigerate plasma.
PTT Mixing Study	Blue Top	n/a	8 hours	n/a	n/a	Fill tube completely.

Hematology

Order	Preferred Container	Alternate Container	Specimen Stability			Notes
			Ambient	Refrigerated	Frozen	
Body Fluid Differential	Sterile Cont	n/a	2 hours	2 hours	n/a	
CBC w/ Diff	Lavender	Lav Bullet, Pink	8 hours	24 hours	n/a	
CBC without Diff	Lavender	Lav Bullet, Pink	8 hours	24 hours	n/a	
Cell Count- Body Fluid	Sterile Cont	n/a	2 hours	2 hours	n/a	
Crystal Examination Body Fluid	Sterile Cont	n/a	2 hours	2 days	n/a	
CSF Cell Count	Sterile Cont	n/a	2 hours	2 hours	n/a	
CSF Differential	Sterile Cont	n/a	2 hours	2 hours	n/a	
Eosinophil Total Count	Lavender	Lav Bullet, Pink	8 hours	24 hours	n/a	
Erythrocyte Sedimentation Rate	Lavender	n/a	24 hours	24 hours	n/a	
Gross Exam CSF	Sterile Cont	n/a	2 hours	2 hours	n/a	
Gross Exam-Body Fluid	Sterile Cont	n/a	2 hours	2 hours	n/a	
HCT	Lavender	Lav Bullet, Pink	8 hours	24 hours	n/a	
Hemoglobin and Hematocrit (HCT and Hgb)	Lavender	Lav Bullet, Pink	8 hours	24 hours	n/a	
Hgb	Lavender	Lav Bullet, Pink	8 hours	24 hours	n/a	
Malaria Smear	Slide	n/a	Indefinite	n/a	n/a	Blood is obtained at the bedside via finger stick and slides are prepared immediately.
Nasal Eosinophils	Swab	n/a	2 hours	n/a	n/a	
Platelet Count	Lavender	Lav Bullet	8 hours	24 hours	n/a	
Post Vasectomy Semen Analysis	Sterile Cont	n/a	30 minutes	n/a	n/a	Patients must schedule an appointment with laboratory.
Red Cell Count	Lavender	Lav Bullet	8 hours	24 hours	n/a	
Retic Count	Lavender	Lav Bullet, Pink	8 hours	24 hours	n/a	
Semen Analysis	Sterile Cont	n/a	30 minutes	n/a	n/a	Patients must schedule an appointment with laboratory.
Urine Eosinophils	Sterile Cont	n/a	1 hour	24 hours	n/a	
WBC	Lavender	Lav Bullet	8 hours	24 hours	n/a	
WBC/ Differential	Lavender	Lav Bullet	8 hours	24 hours	n/a	

Serology

Order	Preferred Container	Alternate Container	Specimen Stability			Notes
			Ambient	Refrigerated	Frozen	
ASO Titer	Tall Gold	n/a	24 hours	1 week	> 1 week	
C. difficile Ag/Toxin	Sterile Cont	STL O	N/A	72 hours	>72 hours	
Chlamydia/Gonorrhea rRNA	Aptima Vial-blue swab	Aptima Vial- urine	30 days	30 days	24 months	Stability in aptima vial. Swabs= 60 days.
Chlamydia/Gonorrhea/Trich rRNA	Aptima Vial-blue swab	Aptima Vial- urine	30 days	30 days	24 months	Stability in aptima vial. Swabs= 60 days.
Coronavirus SARS-CoV-2	VTM-NP	n/a	8 hours	7 days	n/a	
Cryptosporidium Ag, EIA	Sterile Cont	STL Y	72 hours	72 hours	7 days	
Fecal Fat- Qualitative	Sterile Cont	n/a	14 days	14 days	14 days	
Fecal Occult Blood (Guaiac), Rand	Sterile Cont	n/a	< 24 hours			
Fecal Occult Blood- Diagnostic	Sterile Cont	n/a	< 24 hours			
Fecal Occult Blood- Screening	Sterile Cont	n/a	< 24 hours			
Fetal Fibronectin	FFN KIT	n/a	8 hours	3 days	n/a	
Giardia Ag, EIA	Sterile Cont	STL Y	72 hours	72 hours	7 days	
Giardia/Cryptosporidium Ag, EIA	Sterile Cont	STL Y	72 hours	72 hours	7 days	
Group A Streptococcus Ag	Swab	n/a	48 hours	48 hours	n/a	
Group A Streptococcus Ag w/ Reflex culture	Swab	n/a	48 hours	48 hours	n/a	
H Pylori Antibody	Tall Gold	Lavender	n/a	48 hours	>48 hours	
India Ink	Sterile Cont	n/a	2 hours	2 hours	n/a	
Infectious Mononucleosis Screen	Tall Gold	Lavender	24 hours	48 hours	>48 hours	
Influenza A & B Ag	Swab	n/a	1 hour-unpreserved specimen	24 hours in VTM	n/a	Nasal or NP swabs accepted.
Lactoferrin	Sterile Cont	n/a	2 weeks	2 weeks	>2 weeks	

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			Ambient	Refrigerated	Frozen	
Legionella Antigen Urine	Sterile Cont	Urine Yellow	24 hours	14 days	>14 days	
Monospot reflex to EBV Abs	Tall Gold	Lavender	24 hours	48 hours	>48 hours	
Mycoplasma pneumoniae Antibody	Tall Gold	n/a	n/a	72 hours	>72 hours	
Rotavirus Antigen	Sterile Cont	n/a	Immediately	72 hours	>72 hours	
RPR with Reflex to Titer/FTA	Tall Gold	n/a	7 days	7 days	7 days	
RSV Antigen	Swab	n/a	1 hour-unpreserved specimen	24 hours in VTM	n/a	NP swab only.
Streptococcus Pneumoniae Antigen	Sterile Cont	Urine Yellow	24 hours	14 days	14 days	
Trichomonas vaginalis rRNA	Aptima Vial-blue swab	Aptima Vial- urine	30 days	30 days	24 months	Stability in aptima vial. Swabs= 60 days.
Wet Prep	Saline Tube	n/a	1 hour	n/a	n/a	

Urines

Order	Preferred Container	Alternate Container	Specimen Stability			Notes
			Ambient	Refrigerated	Frozen	
Gastric pH	Sterile Cont	n/a	24 hours	5 days	n/a	
Guaiac, Gastric	Sterile Cont	n/a	24 hours	5 days	n/a	
HCG Qualitative Urine	Urine Yellow	Sterile Cont	1 hour	48 hours	n/a	
pH Urine	Sterile Cont	Urine Yellow	1 hour	24 hours	n/a	
Specific Gravity Urine	Sterile Cont	Urine Yellow	1 hour	24 hours	n/a	
Urinalysis with Microscopic and Culture, if indicated	Sterile Cont	Urine Yellow	1 hour	24 hours	n/a	
Urinalysis with Microscopic, if indicated	Sterile Cont	Urine Yellow	1 hour	24 hours	n/a	
Urinalysis, no Microscopic	Sterile Cont	Urine Yellow	1 hour	24 hours	n/a	
Urine Dipstick Bilirubin	Sterile Cont	Urine Yellow	1 hour	24 hours	n/a	
Urine Dipstick Blood	Sterile Cont	Urine Yellow	1 hour	24 hours	n/a	
Urine Dipstick Glucose	Sterile Cont	Urine Yellow	1 hour	24 hours	n/a	
Urine Dipstick Ketone	Sterile Cont	Urine Yellow	1 hour	24 hours	n/a	
Urine Dipstick Protein	Sterile Cont	Urine Yellow	1 hour	24 hours	n/a	

Microbiology

Order	Preferred Container	Alternate Container	Specimen Stability			Notes
			Ambient	Refrigerated	Frozen	
Culture, Anaerobe	Anaerobic Swab	Swab, Sterile Cont	swab- 48 hours	n/a	n/a	Set up in <2 hours if not in anaerobic swab container.
Culture, Blood	BC AER, BC ANA	n/a	24 hours	n/a	n/a	
Culture, Body Fluid	Sterile Cont	n/a	2 hours	n/a	n/a	Should NOT be submitted on swab.
Culture, Cath Tip	Sterile Cont	n/a	2 hours	n/a	n/a	
Culture, Environmental	Sterile Cont	Swab	48 hours	n/a	n/a	
Culture, Fungus	Swab	Sterile Cont	48 hours	n/a	n/a	
Culture, Fungus Skin/Hair/Nail	Sterile Cont	n/a	48 hours	n/a	n/a	
Culture, Genital	Swab	n/a	24 hours	n/a	n/a	Pink or red top swabs acceptable.
Culture, Genital Strep Screen	Swab	n/a	4 days	n/a	n/a	Pink or red top swabs acceptable.
Culture, MRSA	Swab	n/a	24 hours	n/a	n/a	
Culture, Respiratory	Sterile Cont	n/a	2 hours	24 hours	n/a	
Culture, Respiratory-THROAT	Swab	n/a	24 hours	n/a	n/a	
Culture, Surgical	Swab	Sterile Cont	48 hours	n/a	n/a	
Culture, Tissue	Sterile Cont	n/a	2 hours	n/a	n/a	
Culture, Transfusion Reaction	Sterile Cont	n/a	1 hour	n/a	n/a	
Culture, UriCult	Uricult	n/a	24 hours	n/a	n/a	
Culture, Urine	Sterile Cont	Urine Gray, Urine Yellow	2 hours gray-48 hours	unpreserved- 24 hours	n/a	
Culture, Wound	Swab	Sterile Cont	48 hours	n/a	n/a	
Gram Stain	Swab	Sterile Cont	48 hours	n/a	n/a	
KOH Prep	Swab	Sterile Cont	2 hours	n/a	n/a	
Pinworm	Slide	n/a	1 hour	n/a	n/a	