



LABORATORY TEST INFORMATION GUIDE

Laboratory Medicine

Test Name:

Alanine Aminotransferase

Specimen: Blood

Container: Lithium Heparin

Volume: 2.5 – 4.5 ml

Requirements: Invert 8-10 times

Stability: 7 days 2-8°C, Separated: 60 days at -20 °C

Special Instructions:



LABORATORY TEST INFORMATION GUIDE

Laboratory Medicine

Test Name:

Albumin

Specimen: Blood

Container: Lithium Heparin

Volume: 2.5 – 4.5 ml

Requirements: Invert 8-10 times

Stability: 2.5 months at room temperature, 5 months at 2-8°C, Separated: 3 months at -20 °C

Special Instructions:



LABORATORY TEST INFORMATION GUIDE

Laboratory Medicine

Test Name:

Alkaline Phosphatase

Specimen: Blood

Container: Lithium Heparin

Volume: 2.5 – 4.5 ml

Requirements: Invert 8-10 times

Stability: 7 days 2-8°C, Separated: 3 months at -20 °C

Special Instructions:



LABORATORY TEST INFORMATION GUIDE

Laboratory Medicine

Test Name:

Anti-nuclear Factor

Specimen: Blood

Container: SST

Volume: 2 – 3.5 ml

Requirements: Invert 5 times

Stability: 7 days at 2-8°C, 60 days at -20 °C

Special Instructions:

LABORATORY TEST INFORMATION GUIDE

Laboratory Medicine

Test Name:

Anti-Streptolysin O

Specimen: Blood

Container: SST

Volume: 2 – 3.5 ml

Requirements: Invert 5 times

Stability: 2 days at 2-8°C, If longer, freeze at -20 °C

Special Instructions:



LABORATORY TEST INFORMATION GUIDE

Laboratory Medicine

Test Name:

Aspartate Aminotransferase

Specimen: Blood

Container: Lithium Heparin

Volume: 2.5 – 4.5 ml

Requirements: Invert 8-10 times

Stability: 7 days 2-8°C, Separated: 12 weeks at -20 °C

Special Instructions:



LABORATORY TEST INFORMATION GUIDE

Laboratory Medicine

Test Name:

Beta HCG

Specimen: Blood

Container: Lithium Heparin

Volume: 2.5 – 4.5 ml

Requirements: Invert 8-10 times

Stability: 7 days at 2-8°C

Special Instructions:

LABORATORY TEST INFORMATION GUIDE

Laboratory Medicine

Test Name:

Bilirubin, Conjugated

Specimen: Blood

Container: Lithium Heparin

Volume: 2.5 – 4.5 ml

Requirements: Invert 8-10 times

Stability: 7 days 2-8°C, Separated: 3 months at -20 °C

Special Instructions:



LABORATORY TEST INFORMATION GUIDE

Laboratory Medicine

Test Name:

Bilirubin, Conjugated

Specimen: Blood

Container: Micro Amber

Volume: 400 – 600 mml

Requirements: Invert 8-10 times

Stability:

Special Instructions:

Order total or neonatal as needed

LABORATORY TEST INFORMATION GUIDE

Laboratory Medicine

Test Name:

Bilirubin, Total

Specimen: Blood

Container: Lithium Heparin

Volume: 2.5 – 4.5 ml

Requirements: Invert 8-10 times

Stability: 7 days 2-8°C, Separated: 6 months at -20 °C

Special Instructions:

Do not use neonatal sample

LABORATORY TEST INFORMATION GUIDE

Laboratory Medicine

Test Name:

Blood Cultures

Specimen: Peripheral Blood, blood from line/port

Container: Aerobic bottle, Anaerobic bottle

Volume: 5-10 mls (10 mls is optimum amount)

Requirements: Gently invert each tube after collection

Stability: Room temperature

Special Instructions:

Do not inoculate any more than 10 mls. Collect one aerobic and one anaerobic via venipuncture or line/port. Label as #1 and indicate if it was collected via line/port. Collect another aerobic bottle via venipuncture. Label as #2.

LABORATORY TEST INFORMATION GUIDE

Laboratory Medicine

Test Name:

Blood Cultures - Pediatric

Specimen: Peripheral Blood

Container: Pediatric bottle

Volume: 1-4 mls (4 mls is the optimum amount)

Requirements:

Stability: Room temperature

Special Instructions:

Do not inoculate any more than 4 mls. For infants and younger children, the volume of blood drawn should be no more than 1% of the patient's total blood volume.



LABORATORY TEST INFORMATION GUIDE

Laboratory Medicine

Test Name:

Bone (TPN)

Specimen: Bone

Container: Sterile container

Volume:

Requirements:

Stability: 2-8°C 48 hrs

Special Instructions:



LABORATORY TEST INFORMATION GUIDE

Laboratory Medicine

Test Name:

Bordetella PERTUSSUS

Specimen: Nasopharyngeal Swab

Container: UTM

Volume:

Requirements: Specify source on container

Stability: 2-8° 24 hrs; if delay in processing, specimen should be frozen at -70 °C and transported on dry ice

Special Instructions:



LABORATORY TEST INFORMATION GUIDE

Laboratory Medicine

Test Name:

Calcium

Specimen: Blood

Container: Lithium Heparin

Volume: 2.5 – 4.5 ml

Requirements: Invert 8-10 times

Stability: 7 days 2-8°C, Separated: 8 months at -20 °C

Special Instructions:

Albumin must be ordered with Calcium

LABORATORY TEST INFORMATION GUIDE

Laboratory Medicine

Test Name:

Carbamazepine

Specimen: Blood

Container: Lithium Heparin

Volume: 2.5 – 4.5 ml

Requirements: Invert 8-10 times

Stability: 7 days at 2-8°C, 1 month at -20 °C

Special Instructions:

Trough level unless doctor request otherwise. Trough level: just before next dose. Peak level: 2-4 hours before next dose. Also known as: Tegretol and Mazephine



LABORATORY TEST INFORMATION GUIDE

Laboratory Medicine

Test Name:

Catheter Tip Culture

Specimen: Intravascular Catheter tip

Container: Sterile container

Volume: 2-3 cm sections of distal intravascular tip and/or proximal transcutaneous segment

Requirements: Deliver ASAP, specify type of catheter tip

Stability: Refrigerate if not delivered to lab within 2 hrs of collection.

Special Instructions:

Urinary Foley Catheter tips, chest tube tips and abdominal drainage tips are not suitable specimens.



LABORATORY TEST INFORMATION GUIDE

Laboratory Medicine

Test Name:

Cerebral Spinal Fluid - Glucose, Total Protein, Cell Count, Culture

Specimen: Cerebral Spinal fluid

Container: 3 - 4 sterile screw cap tubes (included in the lumbar Puncture Tray)

Volume: < 1ml-12mls

Requirements: Keep at room temp, deliver to Lab immediately

Stability: Room temp until processed, then refrigerate

Special Instructions:

Cerebral Spinal Fluid Tube #1 Chemistry Tube #2 Microbiology Tube #3 Hematology Tube #4 other Tests



LABORATORY TEST INFORMATION GUIDE

Laboratory Medicine

Test Name:

Chlamydia

Specimen: Urine

Container: Sterile Urine Container

Volume: 25-50 mls

Requirements: First part of urine

Stability:

Special Instructions:

Must have urine to lab within 24 hrs. Patient should not have urinated for at least 1 hour prior to specimen collection. Specimen source is required on specimen and requisition

LABORATORY TEST INFORMATION GUIDE

Laboratory Medicine

Test Name:

Chlamydia

Specimen: Cervical or Vaginal

Container: Cobas PCR Female Swab Sample Kit

Volume:

Requirements:

Stability: Endocervical 12 months @ 2-30°C, Vaginal 90 days @ 2-30°C

Special Instructions:

Specimen source is required. Spermicidal agents and feminine powder sprays interfere with the assay and should not be used prior to collection.

LABORATORY TEST INFORMATION GUIDE

Laboratory Medicine

Test Name:

Cholesterol

Specimen: Blood

Container: Lithium Heparin

Volume: 2.5 – 4.5 ml

Requirements: Invert 8-10 times

Stability: 7 days at 2-8°C, Separated: 3 months at -20 °C

Special Instructions:

LABORATORY TEST INFORMATION GUIDE

Laboratory Medicine

Test Name:

Clostridium Difficile

Specimen: Unformed stool indicative of CDAD

Container: Dry sterile container

Volume:

Requirements:

Stability: 24 hrs at 21-27°C, 5 days at 2-8°C, >5 days freeze at -20°C or colder

Special Instructions:

Samples from patients < 1 year will not be tested since Clostridium difficile in stool is normal for this age. Test for cure is not indicated, therefore samples received on a patient who has tested positive in the last 14 days will not be processed. Repeat testing of a patient who tests negative is allowed one additional specimen within a 7 day period.



LABORATORY TEST INFORMATION GUIDE

Laboratory Medicine

Test Name:

Complete Blood Count

Specimen: Blood

Container: Lavender

Volume: 2 – 4 ml (half the tube volume)

Requirements: Invert 8-10 times

Stability: 8 hrs at room temp, 48 hrs at 2-8°C

Special Instructions:

Includes differential



LABORATORY TEST INFORMATION GUIDE

Laboratory Medicine

Test Name:

Complete Blood Count

Specimen: Pediatric

Container: Micro EDTA

Volume: 1 - 2 ml

Requirements: Invert 8-10 times

Stability:

Special Instructions:

Must also collect thrombo-tic manual platelet.



LABORATORY TEST INFORMATION GUIDE

Laboratory Medicine

Test Name:

Corneal Scrapings - Bacterial

Specimen: Corneal Scrapings

Container: Sterile container or inoculated plates

Volume:

Requirements: Deliver ASAP

Stability: uninoculated specimens - 4°C; plates - 35°C

Special Instructions:

Ideally, submit 2 smears also. Plates available from microbiology on request from ophthalmologist.



LABORATORY TEST INFORMATION GUIDE

Laboratory Medicine

Test Name:

C-Reactive Protein – Not hsCRP

Specimen: Blood

Container: Lithium Heparin

Volume: 2.5 – 4.5 ml

Requirements: Invert 8-10 times

Stability: 15 days at room temp, 2 months at 2-8°C, 3 years at -20 °C

Special Instructions:

LABORATORY TEST INFORMATION GUIDE

Laboratory Medicine

Test Name:

Creatinine

Specimen: Blood

Container: Lithium Heparin

Volume: 2.5 – 4.5 ml

Requirements: Invert 8-10 times

Stability: 7 days at 2-8°C, Separated: 3 months at -20 °C

Special Instructions:



LABORATORY TEST INFORMATION GUIDE

Laboratory Medicine

Test Name:

Creatinine Kinase

Specimen: Blood

Container: Lithium Heparin

Volume: 2.5 – 4.5 ml

Requirements: Invert 8-10 times

Stability: 7 days at 2-8°C

Special Instructions:



LABORATORY TEST INFORMATION GUIDE

Laboratory Medicine

Test Name:

Deep Wound Culture

Specimen: Swab

Container: Amies Media

Volume:

Requirements: Specify source

Stability: 48 hrs 2-8°C

Special Instructions:

Aspirate or biopsy would be the specimen of choice

LABORATORY TEST INFORMATION GUIDE

Laboratory Medicine

Test Name:

Dental Abscess Culture

Specimen: Dental Abscess swab or exudate

Container: Amies Media or anaerobic transport media

Volume:

Requirements:

Stability:

Special Instructions:

Take extreme care to avoid contamination with oral flora. The mouth should be rinsed and prepped with dry sterile gauze.

LABORATORY TEST INFORMATION GUIDE

Laboratory Medicine

Test Name:

Digoxin

Specimen: Blood

Container: Lithium Heparin

Volume: 2.5 – 4.5 ml

Requirements: Invert 8-10 times

Stability: 2 days at 2-8°C, 7 days at -20 °C

Special Instructions:

Collect 6-8 hours after last dose



LABORATORY TEST INFORMATION GUIDE

Laboratory Medicine

Test Name:

Direct Coombs

Specimen: Blood

Container: Pink or Lavender

Volume: 3 – 6 ml

Requirements: Mix gently

Stability:

Special Instructions:

Usually only done if problem or ordered by doctor using same guidelines as group and screen



LABORATORY TEST INFORMATION GUIDE

Laboratory Medicine

Test Name:

Electrolytes (Sodium, Potassium, Chloride)

Specimen: Blood

Container: Lithium Heparin

Volume: 2.5 – 4.5 ml

Requirements: Invert 8-10 times

Stability: 7 days at 2-8°C, Separated: 1 year at -20 °C

Special Instructions:



LABORATORY TEST INFORMATION GUIDE

Laboratory Medicine

Test Name:

Enteric Culture

Specimen: Stool

Container: Cary Blair Media

Volume: To fill line on collection bottle

Requirements:

Stability: 48 hrs 2-8°C

Special Instructions:

Stool collected in a dry container may be processed if it is less than 2 hrs old.



LABORATORY TEST INFORMATION GUIDE

Laboratory Medicine

Test Name:

Erythrocyte Sedimentation Rate

Specimen: Blood

Container: Lavender

Volume: 3 – 5 ml

Requirements: Invert 8-10 times

Stability:

Special Instructions:



LABORATORY TEST INFORMATION GUIDE

Laboratory Medicine

Test Name:

Eye

Specimen: Blood

Container: Lithium Heparin

Volume: 2.5 – 4.5 ml

Requirements: Invert 8-10 times

Stability: 7 days at 2-8°C, 12 months at -10 °C or colder

Special Instructions:



LABORATORY TEST INFORMATION GUIDE

Laboratory Medicine

Test Name:

EYE CULTURE

Specimen: Discharge

Container: Amies media

Volume:

Requirements:

Stability: 48 hrs, 2-8°C

Special Instructions:



LABORATORY TEST INFORMATION GUIDE

Laboratory Medicine

Test Name:

Fecal Occult Blood

Specimen: Stool

Container: Guaric Occult Blood Cards

Volume:

Requirements: Provide Patient with Occult Blood cards and collection instructions

Stability: 14 days at room temp

Special Instructions:



LABORATORY TEST INFORMATION GUIDE

Laboratory Medicine

Test Name:

Fecal WBC

Specimen: Fresh Stool, < 2 hrs after collection

Container: Dry sterile container

Volume:

Requirements:

Stability: 2 hrs

Special Instructions:

If transportation of stool to lab within 2 hrs is not possible, physician may submit a prepared slide. Transfer specimen to a clean slide using a swab or pipette. Spread the sample over a large area of the slide to form a thin film.

LABORATORY TEST INFORMATION GUIDE

Laboratory Medicine

Test Name:

Fluid Culture

Specimen: Peritoneal

Container: Sterile container

Volume: < 1m-12mls

Requirements: >1ml centrifuge; transfer supernatant and label

Stability: Room temperature

Special Instructions:

LABORATORY TEST INFORMATION GUIDE

Laboratory Medicine

Test Name:

Fluid Culture

Specimen: Body fluid other than urine, CSF, blood or peritoneal dialysis effluent

Container: Sterile container or tube

Volume:

Requirements:

Stability: up to 72 hours

Special Instructions:

Fluids submitted on swabs may not provide sufficient quantity to ensure recovery of a small amount of organisms and delivered to lab without delay



LABORATORY TEST INFORMATION GUIDE

Laboratory Medicine

Test Name:

Fungal Culture - Hair

Specimen: Hair

Container: Black paper in PHL fungal kit

Volume: Multiple infected hairs.

Requirements: Collect at least 10 broken hairs.

Stability: Keep at room temp

Special Instructions:



LABORATORY TEST INFORMATION GUIDE

Laboratory Medicine

Test Name:

Fungal Culture - Nail

Specimen: Nail

Container: Black paper in PHL fungal kit

Volume:

Requirements: Scrapings with surgical blade. Scrape away superficial portions first

Stability: Keep at room temp

Special Instructions:

LABORATORY TEST INFORMATION GUIDE

Laboratory Medicine

Test Name:

Fungal Culture - Skin

Specimen: Skin

Container: Black paper in PHL fungal kit

Volume:

Requirements: Scales removed with surgical blade.

Stability:

Special Instructions:

Lesions should be sampled from erythematous, peripheral, actively growing margins of typical ringworm infection.



LABORATORY TEST INFORMATION GUIDE

Laboratory Medicine

Test Name:

Fungal Culture - Sterile Fluid

Specimen: Sterile Fluid

Container: Sterile screw-cap container

Volume: Minimum of 2 ml

Requirements:

Stability: CSF-Keep at room temp; Other fluids - 2-8°C

Special Instructions:



LABORATORY TEST INFORMATION GUIDE

Laboratory Medicine

Test Name:

Fungal Culture - Tissue/Skin Biopsy

Specimen: Tissue/Skin Biopsy

Container: Sterile screw-cap container

Volume:

Requirements: Add a small amount of nonbacteriostatic saline to prevent drying

Stability: 2-8°C

Special Instructions:



LABORATORY TEST INFORMATION GUIDE

Laboratory Medicine

Test Name:

Fungal Culture - Urine

Specimen: First morning clean-catch or catheter

Container: Sterile screw-cap container

Volume:

Requirements:

Stability: 2-8°C

Special Instructions:



LABORATORY TEST INFORMATION GUIDE

Laboratory Medicine

Test Name:

Fungal Culture- Respiratory

Specimen: Sputum, Bronchial Wash/Lavage, Tracheal Aspirate

Container: Sterile screw-cap container

Volume:

Requirements:

Stability: 2-8°C

Special Instructions:

If collecting sputum, collect 3 early morning samples, resulting from a deep cough, in 3 separate containers; submit each sample as it is collected.



LABORATORY TEST INFORMATION GUIDE

Laboratory Medicine

Test Name:

Gamma Glutamyl Transferase

Specimen: Blood

Container: Lithium Heparin

Volume: 2.5 – 4.5 ml

Requirements: Invert 8-10 times

Stability: 7 days 2-8°C, Separated: 3 months at -20 °C

Special Instructions:



LABORATORY TEST INFORMATION GUIDE

Laboratory Medicine

Test Name:

Genital Bacterial Vaginosis

Specimen: Vaginal swab

Container: Amies Media

Volume:

Requirements:

Stability: 48 hrs 2-4°

Special Instructions:



LABORATORY TEST INFORMATION GUIDE

Laboratory Medicine

Test Name:

Genital Group B strep

Specimen: Vaginal/Rectal Swab

Container: Amies Media

Volume:

Requirements:

Stability: 48 hrs 2-4°

Special Instructions:

Usually done at 35-37 weeks



LABORATORY TEST INFORMATION GUIDE

Laboratory Medicine

Test Name:

Genital Trichomonas

Specimen: Vaginal swab

Container: Amies Media

Volume:

Requirements:

Stability: Swab for Trichomonas must be received within 1 hr of collection to be processed

Special Instructions:

LABORATORY TEST INFORMATION GUIDE

Laboratory Medicine

Test Name:

Glucose – 2hr PC

Specimen: Blood

Container: Lithium Heparin

Volume: 2.5 – 4.5 ml

Requirements: Invert 8-10 times

Stability: 7 days at 2-8°C, Separated: 1 day at -20 °C

Special Instructions:

Finger prick not greater than 6.9. 75g glucose given after blood drawn, patient returns 1 hr and 2 hrs after drink.

LABORATORY TEST INFORMATION GUIDE

Laboratory Medicine

Test Name:

Glucose – Fasting 8hr

Specimen: Blood

Container: Lithium Heparin

Volume: 2.5 – 4.5 ml

Requirements: Invert 8-10 times

Stability: 7 days at 2-8°C, Separated: 1 day at -20 °C

Special Instructions:

LABORATORY TEST INFORMATION GUIDE

Laboratory Medicine

Test Name:

Glucose – Random, no Fasting

Specimen: Blood

Container: Lithium Heparin

Volume: 2.5 – 4.5 ml

Requirements: Invert 8-10 times

Stability: 7 days at 2-8°C, Separated: 1 day at -20 °C

Special Instructions:

No Fasting

LABORATORY TEST INFORMATION GUIDE

Laboratory Medicine

Test Name:

Glucose Tolerance Gestational

Specimen: Blood

Container: Lithium Heparin

Volume: 2.5 – 4.5 ml

Requirements: Invert 8-10 times

Stability: 7 days at 2-8°C, Separated: 1 day at -20 °C

Special Instructions:

If finger prick less than 10.1, 50g glucose drink given patient to fast for 1 hour and return for blood test.

LABORATORY TEST INFORMATION GUIDE

Laboratory Medicine

Test Name:

Glucose Tolerance Test 2 hr Diabetic confirmatory Test – Fasting 8 hrs)

Specimen: Blood

Container: Lithium Heparin

Volume: 2.5 – 4.5 ml

Requirements: Invert 8-10 times

Stability: 7 days at 2-8°C, Separated: 1 day at -20 °C

Special Instructions:

If finger prick 6.9 or less blood work drawn, then give 75g glucose drink. Patient to continue to fast and return in 1 hour and 2 hours for more blood work.



LABORATORY TEST INFORMATION GUIDE

Laboratory Medicine

Test Name:

Gonorrhea culture

Specimen: Urethral or cervical swab

Container: Amies Media

Volume:

Requirements:

Stability: 24 hrs 2-4°

Special Instructions:



LABORATORY TEST INFORMATION GUIDE

Laboratory Medicine

Test Name:

Group & Screen

Specimen: Blood

Container: Pink or Lavender

Volume: 3 – 6 ml

Requirements: Invert 8-10 times

Stability: 7 days at 2-8°C, If transfused within the last 3 months 4 days at 2-8°C

Special Instructions:

All patients must have an arm band



LABORATORY TEST INFORMATION GUIDE

Laboratory Medicine

Test Name:

Group & Screen Neonate

Specimen: Blood

Container: Cells in saline

Volume: Few drops until changes red

Requirements: Mix gently

Stability:

Special Instructions:

Consult with Transfusion Medicine Technologist prior to collection.



LABORATORY TEST INFORMATION GUIDE

Laboratory Medicine

Test Name:

Hemoglobin A1C

Specimen: Blood

Container: Lavender

Volume: 1 – 4 ml

Requirements: Invert 8-10 times

Stability: 14 days at 2-8°C, 24 hrs at room temp

Special Instructions:



LABORATORY TEST INFORMATION GUIDE

Laboratory Medicine

Test Name:

Hepatitis B

Specimen: Blood

Container: SST

Volume: 2 – 3.5 ml

Requirements: Invert 5 times

Stability: 14 days at 2-8°C, Separated: -20 °C until testing completed

Special Instructions:



LABORATORY TEST INFORMATION GUIDE

Laboratory Medicine

Test Name:

Herpes Simplex Virus

Specimen: CSF

Container: Sterile Tube

Volume: 1-12 mls

Requirements:

Stability: 2-4°C 3 days, freeze if > 3 days

Special Instructions:



LABORATORY TEST INFORMATION GUIDE

Laboratory Medicine

Test Name:

Herpes Simplex Virus

Specimen: Genital Swab (or other non-CSF)

Container: UTM

Volume:

Requirements:

Stability: 2-4°C 3 days, freeze if > 3 days

Special Instructions:

Specify source.

LABORATORY TEST INFORMATION GUIDE

Laboratory Medicine

Test Name:

High Density Lipoprotein/Low Density Lipoprotein

Specimen: Blood

Container: Lithium Heparin

Volume: 2.5 – 4.5 ml

Requirements: Invert 8-10 times

Stability: 7 days at 2-8°C, Separated: 1 year at -20 °C

Special Instructions:



LABORATORY TEST INFORMATION GUIDE

Laboratory Medicine

Test Name:

HIV Serology

Specimen: Blood

Container: SST

Volume: 2 – 3.5 ml

Requirements: Invert 5 times

Stability: 3 days at room temp, 14 days at 2-8°C

Special Instructions:

Specify if the collection is due to a Needle stick/exposure incident



LABORATORY TEST INFORMATION GUIDE

Laboratory Medicine

Test Name:

Infectious Mononucleosis

Specimen: Blood

Container: SST or EDTA

Volume: 2 – 3.5 ml

Requirements:

Stability: Serum: 8 days at 2-8°C, If longer, freeze at -20 °C; Plasma: 24 hrs

Special Instructions:



LABORATORY TEST INFORMATION GUIDE

Laboratory Medicine

Test Name:

Inorganic Phosphate

Specimen: Blood

Container: Lithium Heparin

Volume: 2.5 – 4.5 ml

Requirements: Invert 8-10 times

Stability: 1 day at room temperature, 4 days at 2-8°C, Separated: 1 year at -20 °C

Special Instructions:



LABORATORY TEST INFORMATION GUIDE

Laboratory Medicine

Test Name:

INR

Specimen: Blood

Container: Sodium Citrate

Volume: Full Draw - 4.5 ml for adult tube, 2.5 ml for paed.

Requirements: Invert 3-4 times

Stability: 24 hrs at room temp. Specimens not processed within 24 hours must have plasma separated from Red Cells and Frozen

Special Instructions:

Vacutainer tube must be completely full.



LABORATORY TEST INFORMATION GUIDE

Laboratory Medicine

Test Name:

Intrauterine Device for Actinomyces

Specimen: IUD or swab of secretions around IUD

Container: Dry sterile container or Amies Media

Volume:

Requirements:

Stability: 72 hrs 2-8°C

Special Instructions:

LABORATORY TEST INFORMATION GUIDE

Laboratory Medicine

Test Name:

Lactate Dehydrogenase

Specimen: Blood

Container: SST

Volume: 2.5 – 4.5 ml

Requirements: Invert 8-10 times

Stability: 7 days 2-8°C, Separated: 6 weeks at -20 °C

Special Instructions:



LABORATORY TEST INFORMATION GUIDE

Laboratory Medicine

Test Name:

Lipid profile – Fasting 12 hrs / Non-Fasting

Specimen: Blood

Container: Lithium Heparin

Volume: 2.5 – 4.5 ml

Requirements: Invert 8-10 times

Stability:

Special Instructions:

LABORATORY TEST INFORMATION GUIDE

Laboratory Medicine

Test Name:

Lithium

Specimen: Blood

Container: Red

Volume: 3 – 6 ml

Requirements: Invert 5 times

Stability: 7 days at 2-8°C, 6 months at -20 °C

Special Instructions:

Trough level to be collected 12 hours after last dose, unless doctor requests otherwise



LABORATORY TEST INFORMATION GUIDE

Laboratory Medicine

Test Name:

Liver Function Test (ALP, ALT)

Specimen: Blood

Container: Lithium Heparin

Volume: 2.5 – 4.5 ml

Requirements: Invert 8-10 times

Stability:

Special Instructions:



LABORATORY TEST INFORMATION GUIDE

Laboratory Medicine

Test Name:

Magnesium

Specimen: Blood

Container: Lithium Heparin

Volume: 2.5 – 4.5 ml

Requirements: Invert 8-10 times

Stability: 7 days at 2-8°C, Separated: 1 year at -20 °C

Special Instructions:



LABORATORY TEST INFORMATION GUIDE

Laboratory Medicine

Test Name:

MRSA Screen - Sputum

Specimen: Sputum

Container: Sterile container

Volume:

Requirements: Only required if patient has a tracheostomy

Stability: 2-8°C 48 hrs

Special Instructions:



LABORATORY TEST INFORMATION GUIDE

Laboratory Medicine

Test Name:

MRSA Screen - Swab

Specimen: Swab of anterior nares, open wound or area of dermatitis

Container: Amies Media

Volume:

Requirements:

Stability: 2-8°C 48 hrs

Special Instructions:



LABORATORY TEST INFORMATION GUIDE

Laboratory Medicine

Test Name:

MRSA Screen - Urine

Specimen: Urine

Container: Sterile container

Volume:

Requirements: Only required if patient has an indwelling catheter

Stability: 2-8°C 24 hrs

Special Instructions:



LABORATORY TEST INFORMATION GUIDE

Laboratory Medicine

Test Name:

MSSA/MRSA - Staph aureus carrier status

Specimen: Nose

Container: Amies Media

Volume:

Requirements:

Stability: 2-8°C 48 hrs

Special Instructions:



LABORATORY TEST INFORMATION GUIDE

Laboratory Medicine

Test Name:

Mycobacterium tuberculosis

Specimen: Sputum

Container: Sterile 4 oz disposable container

Volume: 3-5 mls

Requirements:

Stability:

Special Instructions:



LABORATORY TEST INFORMATION GUIDE

Laboratory Medicine

Test Name:

Mycobacterium tuberculosis

Specimen: Tissue (lung biopsy)

Container: Sterile 4 oz disposable container

Volume:

Requirements:

Stability:

Special Instructions:



LABORATORY TEST INFORMATION GUIDE

Laboratory Medicine

Test Name:

Mycobacterium tuberculosis

Specimen: Fluid

Container: Sterile 4 oz disposable container

Volume: 3-5 mls

Requirements:

Stability:

Special Instructions:



LABORATORY TEST INFORMATION GUIDE

Laboratory Medicine

Test Name:

Myobacterium tuberculosis

Specimen: Urine

Container: Sterile 4 oz disposable container

Volume: 3-5 mls

Requirements:

Stability: 24 hrs for optimal results, 48 hrs if necessary. 2-8°

Special Instructions:



LABORATORY TEST INFORMATION GUIDE

Laboratory Medicine

Test Name:

Oral Cavity

Specimen: Mouth or tongue swab

Container: Amies Media

Volume:

Requirements: Source must be indicated

Stability: 48 hrs 2-8°C

Special Instructions:



LABORATORY TEST INFORMATION GUIDE

Laboratory Medicine

Test Name:

Ova and parasites

Specimen: Stool

Container: SAF medium

Volume: Fill to line on collection bottle

Requirements:

Stability: 18 months 2-8°C or Room Temperature

Special Instructions:

Collect 2 samples over two different days.

LABORATORY TEST INFORMATION GUIDE

Laboratory Medicine

Test Name:

Phenobarbital

Specimen: Blood

Container: Lithium Heparin

Volume: 2.5 – 4.5 ml

Requirements: Invert 8-10 times

Stability: 8 days at 2-8°C, 6 months at -20 °C

Special Instructions:

Trough level collected just before next dose unless doctor requests otherwise. Also known as Luminal

LABORATORY TEST INFORMATION GUIDE

Laboratory Medicine

Test Name:

Phenytoin

Specimen: Blood

Container: Lithium Heparin

Volume: 2.5 – 4.5 ml

Requirements: Invert 8-10 times

Stability: 2 days at room temp, 8 days at 2-8°C, 5 months at -20 °C

Special Instructions:

Collect just before next dose.

LABORATORY TEST INFORMATION GUIDE

Laboratory Medicine

Test Name:

Pinworm

Specimen: Clear polystyrene paddle preparation of perianal area

Container: Pinworm collector

Volume:

Requirements: Ideal time of collection is early morning before bathing or using toilet

Stability:

Special Instructions:

If pinworm collector is not available, clear scotch tape and a microscope slide may be used.

LABORATORY TEST INFORMATION GUIDE

Laboratory Medicine

Test Name:

Pneumocystis Jiroveci

Specimen: Sputum

Container: Sterile Container

Volume:

Requirements: Set up smear and/or GMS stain, Diff quick

Stability: ?

Special Instructions:

Usually occurs in immuno compromised or HIV patients.



LABORATORY TEST INFORMATION GUIDE

Laboratory Medicine

Test Name:

Pneumocystis Jiroveci

Specimen: Bronchial Lavage

Container: Sterile Container

Volume:

Requirements:

Stability: ?

Special Instructions:

LABORATORY TEST INFORMATION GUIDE

Laboratory Medicine

Test Name:

Pneumocystis Jiroveci

Specimen: Lung Tissue

Container: Sterile Container

Volume:

Requirements: Stain and a Meriflu or Pneumocystis stain

Stability:

Special Instructions:

Usually ordered by Pathologist.

LABORATORY TEST INFORMATION GUIDE

Laboratory Medicine

Test Name:

Pregnancy Test

Specimen: Urine

Container: Sterile Urine Bottle

Volume: Min 5ml

Requirements:

Stability: 4 hours at room temp, 3 days at 2-8°C

Special Instructions:

First morning specimen preferred since it is the most concentrated urine but urine collected any time of day may be used.

LABORATORY TEST INFORMATION GUIDE

Laboratory Medicine

Test Name:

Prenatal

Specimen: Blood

Container: CBC=EDTA, Group and Screen=Pink

Volume: 3 – 6 ml

Requirements: Invert 8-10 times

Stability: CBC - 48 hrs at 2-8 °C, GS - 7 days at 2-8 °C unless patient transfused in the previous 3 months.

Special Instructions:

All patients must have an arm band

LABORATORY TEST INFORMATION GUIDE

Laboratory Medicine

Test Name:

Prostate Specific Antigen

Specimen: Blood

Container: SST

Volume: 2 – 3.5 ml

Requirements: Invert 5 times

Stability: 24 hours at 2-8°C. If longer, freeze at -20 °C

Special Instructions:



LABORATORY TEST INFORMATION GUIDE

Laboratory Medicine

Test Name:

PTT

Specimen: Blood

Container: Sodium Citrate

Volume: 2.5 or 4.5 ml

Requirements: Invert 3-4 times

Stability: Meds – 4hrs unopened. No Meds – 4 hrs room temp

Special Instructions:

4 hrs room temp



LABORATORY TEST INFORMATION GUIDE

Laboratory Medicine

Test Name:

Quantiferon/Interferon Gamma Release Assay

Specimen: Plasma

Container: Quantiferon - TB Gold Blood Collection Tubes

Volume: 1 ml per tube; total 3 mls

Requirements: Results of Tuberculin Skin Test must be submitted

Stability: 16 hrs @ RT prior to incubation; post centrifugations 2-8°C

Special Instructions:



LABORATORY TEST INFORMATION GUIDE

Laboratory Medicine

Test Name:

Respiratory Culture

Specimen: Lavage/ washings

Container: Sterile 4 oz disposable container

Volume: min 3 - 5 mls for TB, 15-30 mls

Requirements: Deliver to lab ASAP. If delayed refrigerate to maintain sample integrity

Stability: 72 hrs 2-8°C

Special Instructions:



LABORATORY TEST INFORMATION GUIDE

Laboratory Medicine

Test Name:

Respiratory Culture

Specimen: Sputum

Container: Sterile 4 oz disposable container

Volume:

Requirements: Deliver to lab ASAP. If delayed refrigerate to maintain sample integrity

Stability: 48 hrs 2-8°C

Special Instructions:

Best sample first thing in AM.



LABORATORY TEST INFORMATION GUIDE

Laboratory Medicine

Test Name:

Respiratory Culture

Specimen: Respiratory secretions

Container: Sterile 4 oz disposable container

Volume: 3-5 mls for TB

Requirements: Deliver to lab ASAP. If delayed refrigerate to maintain sample integrity

Stability: 48 hrs 2-8°C

Special Instructions:



LABORATORY TEST INFORMATION GUIDE

Laboratory Medicine

Test Name:

Respiratory Culture

Specimen: Tracheal Aspirations

Container: Sterile 4 oz disposable container

Volume: 3-5 mls for TB

Requirements: Deliver to lab ASAP. If delayed refrigerate to maintain sample integrity

Stability: 48 hrs 2-8°C

Special Instructions:



LABORATORY TEST INFORMATION GUIDE

Laboratory Medicine

Test Name:

Respiratory Syncytial Virus

Specimen: Nasopharyngeal Swab or Nasal Wash (sterile collection bottle)

Container: UTM Media

Volume:

Requirements: Specify source on container

Stability: Swab - 4 hrs @ RT, Swab - 48 hrs @ 2-8°C; Wash - 4 hrs @ RT, Wash - 24 hrs @ 2-8°C

Special Instructions:

Longer than 48 hrs. Freeze at -70°



LABORATORY TEST INFORMATION GUIDE

Laboratory Medicine

Test Name:

Respiratory Viruses

Specimen: Nasopharyngeal Swab

Container: UTM Media

Volume:

Requirements: Longer than 72 hrs freeze at -70°C

Stability: 2-8°C 72 hrs

Special Instructions:

Includes testing for Influenza A & B, metapneumo virus, adenovirus, parainfluenzae, RSV



LABORATORY TEST INFORMATION GUIDE

Laboratory Medicine

Test Name:

Reticulocyte Profile

Specimen: Blood

Container: EDTA

Volume: 1.5 – 4 ml

Requirements: Invert 8-10 times

Stability: Maximum 6 hrs room temp

Special Instructions:

Must also order CBC



LABORATORY TEST INFORMATION GUIDE

Laboratory Medicine

Test Name:

Rheumatoid Factor

Specimen: Blood

Container: SST

Volume: 2 – 3.5 ml

Requirements: Invert 5 times

Stability: 1 day at room temp, 3 days at 2-8°C, 1 month at -20 °C

Special Instructions:



LABORATORY TEST INFORMATION GUIDE

Laboratory Medicine

Test Name:

Rotavirus

Specimen: Stool

Container: Dry Sterile Container

Volume:

Requirements:

Stability: 48 hrs 2-8°C, -20°C for longer

Special Instructions:



LABORATORY TEST INFORMATION GUIDE

Laboratory Medicine

Test Name:

Routine Urine

Specimen: Urine

Container: Sterile Urine Bottle

Volume: Min 10ml

Requirements: Midstream/Catheter

Stability: 2 hours at room temp, 24 hours at 2-8°C

Special Instructions:



LABORATORY TEST INFORMATION GUIDE

Laboratory Medicine

Test Name:

Rubella

Specimen: Blood

Container: SST

Volume: 2 – 3.5 ml

Requirements: Invert 5 times

Stability: 14 days at 2-8°C, Separated: 1 month at -20 °C

Special Instructions:

Send to PHL

LABORATORY TEST INFORMATION GUIDE

Laboratory Medicine

Test Name:

Seminal Fluid Culture

Specimen: Seminal Fluid

Container: Sterile container

Volume:

Requirements: Specimen must be transported to lab immediately

Stability: 3 hrs room temp

Special Instructions:

Periurethral area & hands should be washed and urine should be passed immediately before seminal fluid collection.



LABORATORY TEST INFORMATION GUIDE

Laboratory Medicine

Test Name:

Superficial Wound Culture

Specimen: Swab

Container: Amies Media

Volume:

Requirements: Specify source

Stability: 48 hrs 2-8°C

Special Instructions:



LABORATORY TEST INFORMATION GUIDE

Laboratory Medicine

Test Name:

Syphilis TP Antibody

Specimen: Blood

Container: SST

Volume: 5 mls of whole blood; min 0.3 mls serum

Requirements: Separate within 6 hrs

Stability: Separated: 7 days at 2-8°C. For longer delay, freeze at -70°C

Special Instructions:

LABORATORY TEST INFORMATION GUIDE

Laboratory Medicine

Test Name:

Theophylline

Specimen: Blood

Container: Lithium Heparin

Volume: 2.5 – 4.5 ml

Requirements: Invert 8-10 times

Stability: 8 days at 2-8°C, 3 months at -20 °C

Special Instructions:

Trough level to be collected just before next dose, unless doctor requests otherwise. Sustained release 3 – 5 hours. Immediate release 1 – 2 hours. Continuous infusion 24 – 48 hours after start of infusion



LABORATORY TEST INFORMATION GUIDE

Laboratory Medicine

Test Name:

Throat Culture

Specimen: Throat swab

Container: Amies Media

Volume:

Requirements:

Stability: 48 hrs 2-8°C

Special Instructions:

Specimens will be checked for Group A streptococci only unless testing for another pathogen is specifically requested.



LABORATORY TEST INFORMATION GUIDE

Laboratory Medicine

Test Name:

Thyroid Stimulating Hormone

Specimen: Blood

Container: Lithium Heparin

Volume: 2.5 – 4.5 ml

Requirements: Invert 8-10 times

Stability: 7 days at 2-8°C, 6 months at -10 °C or colder

Special Instructions:



LABORATORY TEST INFORMATION GUIDE

Laboratory Medicine

Test Name:

Tissue Culture

Specimen: Tissue

Container: Sterile container with small amount of saline

Volume:

Requirements: Specify source

Stability: 72 hrs 2-8°C

Special Instructions:

LABORATORY TEST INFORMATION GUIDE

Laboratory Medicine

Test Name:

Total Protein

Specimen: Blood

Container: Lithium Heparin

Volume: 2.5 – 4.5 ml

Requirements: Invert 8-10 times

Stability: One month 2-8°C, Separated: 2 months at -20 °C

Special Instructions:

LABORATORY TEST INFORMATION GUIDE

Laboratory Medicine

Test Name:

Triglycerides

Specimen: Blood

Container: Lithium Heparin

Volume: 2.5 – 4.5 ml

Requirements: Invert 8-10 times

Stability: 7 days at 2-8°C, Separated: 1 year at -20 °C

Special Instructions:

Separate from cells ASAP

LABORATORY TEST INFORMATION GUIDE

Laboratory Medicine

Test Name:

Urea

Specimen: Blood

Container: Lithium Heparin

Volume: 2.5 – 4.5 ml

Requirements: Invert 8-10 times

Stability: 7 days at 2-8°C, Separated: 3 months at -20 °C

Special Instructions:



LABORATORY TEST INFORMATION GUIDE

Laboratory Medicine

Test Name:

Uric Acid

Specimen: Blood

Container: Lithium Heparin

Volume: 2.5 – 4.5 ml

Requirements: Invert 8-10 times

Stability: 7 days 2-8°C, Separated: 6 months at -20 °C

Special Instructions:



LABORATORY TEST INFORMATION GUIDE

Laboratory Medicine

Test Name:

Urine Cultures

Specimen: Urine Catheter or midstream

Container: Dry sterile container

Volume: Min. 10 mls

Requirements:

Stability: 2 hrs room temperature/24 hours refrigerated at 2 -8 degrees

Special Instructions:



LABORATORY TEST INFORMATION GUIDE

Laboratory Medicine

Test Name:

Urine from OR Cytoscopic

Specimen: Urine

Container: Dry sterile container

Volume: 10 mls

Requirements:

Stability: 2 hrs room temp, 2-8° 24 hrs

Special Instructions:



LABORATORY TEST INFORMATION GUIDE

Laboratory Medicine

Test Name:

Urine from OR Nephrostomy

Specimen: Aspirate

Container: Dry sterile container

Volume: 10 mls

Requirements:

Stability: 2 hrs room temp, 2-8° 24 hrs

Special Instructions:



LABORATORY TEST INFORMATION GUIDE

Laboratory Medicine

Test Name:

Urine from OR Suprapubic

Specimen: Aspirate

Container: Dry sterile container

Volume: 10 mls

Requirements:

Stability: 2 hrs room temp, 2-8° 24 hrs

Special Instructions:

LABORATORY TEST INFORMATION GUIDE

Laboratory Medicine

Test Name:

urine Microalbumin

Specimen: Urine

Container: Sterile Urine Bottle

Volume: Min 2 ml

Requirements:

Stability: 7 days at 4°C

Special Instructions:

LABORATORY TEST INFORMATION GUIDE

Laboratory Medicine

Test Name:

Valproic Acid

Specimen: Blood

Container: Lithium Heparin

Volume: 2.5 – 4.5 ml

Requirements: Invert 8-10 times

Stability: 2 days at 2-8°C, 7 days at -20 °C

Special Instructions:

Trough level just before next dose.

LABORATORY TEST INFORMATION GUIDE

Laboratory Medicine

Test Name:

Vancomycin Resistant Enterococcus

Specimen: Rectal swab

Container: Amies Media

Volume:

Requirements: Swab must be visibly soiled

Stability: Room temp or 4° 96 hrs

Special Instructions:

If patient has an indwelling urinary catheter, a urine specimen should be sent in a sterile container, refrigerated and stable up to 24 hours

LABORATORY TEST INFORMATION GUIDE

Laboratory Medicine

Test Name:

Vitamin B12

Specimen: Blood

Container: SST

Volume: 2 – 3.5 ml

Requirements: Invert 5 times

Stability: Spin within 2 hours, store at 2-8 °C

Special Instructions:

Spin within 2 hours, if not sent out within 7 days pour off and freeze at -20 °C.