

CentraCare Laboratory Services

For Chemistry room temperature stability see package insert

SPECIMEN CENTRIFUGATION & STABILITY GUIDE

Update 2/7/23 K. Enerson

Chemistry	Primary Sample Type	Centrifuge	Refrigerated	Frozen
Acetaminophen	Lithium Heparin Plasma	4 hours	1 week	1 week
Albumin	Lithium Heparin Plasma	4 hours	1 week	1 week
Allergens/IgE (non-Mayo)	Lithium Heparin Plasma	4 hours	1 week	1 week
Alk Phos	Lithium Heparin Plasma	4 hours	1 week	1 week
ALT/SGPT	Lithium Heparin Plasma	4 hours	1 week	1 Week
Ammonia (NH3)	Lithium Heparin Plasma (on ice)	15 minutes & aliquot/ice	2 hours	1 week
Amylase	Lithium Heparin Plasma	4 hours	1 week	1 week
AST / SGOT	Lithium Heparin Plasma	4 hours	1 week	1 week
Beta-HCG	Lithium Heparin Plasma	24 hours	1 week	1 week
BOHB	Lithium Heparin Plasma	4 Hours	1 week	Not Recommended
Bilirubin (Total,Dir, & Neo)	Lithium Heparin Plasma	4 hours	1 week	1 week
BNP	EDTA Plasma	WB RT-up to 4 hrs; WB Ref-up to 24 hrs; Plasma Frozen-1 week		
BUN	Lithium Heparin Plasma	4 hours	1 week	1 week
C3	Lithium Heparin Plasma	4 hours	3 days	1 week
C4	Lithium Heparin Plasma	4 hours	2 days	Not Recommended
CA125	Lithium Heparin Plasma	24 hours	1 week	1 week
Calcium	Lithium Heparin Plasma	4 hours	1 week	1 week
CEA	Lithium Heparin Plasma	24 hours	1 week	1 week
Chloride	Lithium Heparin Plasma	4 hours	1 week	1 week
Cholesterol	Lithium Heparin Plasma	4 hours	1 week	1 week
CK	Lithium Heparin Plasma	4 hours	1 week	Not Recommended
CO	Na or Lithium Heparinized WB	n/a	1 week	Not Recommended
CO2	Lithium Heparin Plasma	4 hours	1 week	1 week
Cortisol	Lithium Heparin Plasma	8 hours	1 week	1 week
COV-2	Serum	2 days	1 week	1 week
Creatinine	Lithium Heparin Plasma	4 hours	1 week	1 week
CRP	Lithium Heparin Plasma	4 hours	1 week	1 week
Digoxin	Lithium Heparin Plasma	4 hours	2 days	1 week
Phenytoin (Dilantin)	Lithium Heparin or EDTA Plasma	4 hours	1 week	1 week
LDL	Lithium Heparin Plasma	4 hours	5 days	Not Recommended
ELPP (Protein Electro)	Serum	4 hours	1 week	1 week
Estradiol	Lithium Heparin Plasma	24 hours	2 days on gel/1 wk off	1 week
Ethanol	Lithium Heparin Plasma	4 hours	1 week	1 week
FANA	Serum	4 hours	1 week	1 week
Ferritin	Lithium Heparin Plasma	24 hours	1 week	1 week
Folate	Serum	24 hours	1 week	1 week
Free & Total Phenytoin	EDTA Plasma	4 hours	1 week	1 week
Free T3	Lithium Heparin Plasma	24 hours	6 days	6 days
Free T4	Lithium Heparin Plasma	24 hours	6 days	6 days
FSH	Lithium Heparin Plasma	24 hours	1 week	1 week
Gentamicin	Lithium Heparin Plasma	4 hours	1 week	1 week
Chemistry	Primary Sample Type	Centrifuge	Refrigerated	Frozen
GGT	Lithium Heparin Plasma	4 hours	1 week	1 week
Glucose	Lithium Heparin Plasma	1 hour	1 week	1 week
HBC	Serum	3 days	1 week	1 week

HBs Ab	Serum	RT-3 days/Ref-7 days	1 week	1 week
HBs Ag	EDTA Plasma	8 hours	2 days	1 week
HCV	Serum	RT-3 days/Ref-7 days	1 week	1 week
HDL	Lithium Heparin Plasma	4 hours	1 week	1 week
H. Pylori	Serum	4 hours	1 week	1 week
HIV 1/2	EDTA Plasma	1 week	1 week	1 week
IBC	Lithium Heparin Plasma	4 hours	3 days	1 week
IgA	Lithium Heparin Plasma	4 hours	1 week	1 week
IgG	Lithium Heparin Plasma	4 hours	1 week	1 week
IgM	Lithium Heparin Plasma	4 hours	1 week	1 week
Ionized Calcium	Lithium or Na Heparinized WB (on ice)	WB must be tested within 30 minutes (60 if on ice)		
Iron	Lithium Heparin Plasma	4 hours	1 week	1 week
Lactic Acid	Lithium or Na Heparinized WB (on ice)	WB must be tested within 30 minutes		
LDH	Serum	4 hour	4 days	1 week
Lead	EDTA Plasma	n/a	1 day	1 week
LH	Serum	24 hours	1 week	1 week
Lipase	Lithium Heparin Plasma	4 hours	1 week	1 week
Lithium	Serum	4 hours	1 week	1 week
Ketone	Lithium Heparin Plasma	4 hours	1 week	1 week
Lymes	Serum	4 hours	5 days	1 week
Magnesium	Lithium Heparin Plasma	4 hours	1 week	1 week
CK-MB	Lithium Heparin Plasma	8 hours	3 days	1 week
Methotrexate	Serum (protect from light)	4 hours	1 week	1 week
MONO	Serum	4 hours	2 days	1 week
Neonatal Bilirubin	Lithium Heparin Plasma	4 hours	1 week	1 week
Osmolality	Lithium Heparin Plasma	1 hour	2 days	3 days
PCT	Lithium Heparin Plasma	24 hours	2 days	1 week
Phenobarb	Lithium Heparin Plasma	4 hours	1 week	1 week
Phosphorus	Lithium Heparin Plasma	4 hours	4 days	1 week
Potassium	Lithium Heparin Plasma	4 hours	1 week	1 week
Progesterone	Lithium Heparin Plasma	24 hours	1 week	1 week
Prolactin	Lithium Heparin Plasma	24 hours	1 week	1 week
Total PSA	Serum	24 hours	1 day	1 week
PTH	Serum & EDTA Plasma	WB RT-24 hrs/WB Refrig-48 hrs		1 week
Rheumatoid Factor	Serum	4 hours	3 days	1 week
RPR	Serum	4 hours	5 days	1 week
Rubella	Serum	4 hours	1 week	1 week
Salicylate	Lithium Heparin Plasma	4 hours	1 week	1 week
Serum Pregnancy	Serum	24 hours	3 days	1 week
Sodium	Lithium Heparin Plasma	4 hours	1 week	1 week
Syphilis	Serum	24 hours	1 week	1 week
Total T4	Lithium Heparin Plasma	24 hours	6 days	1 week
Chemistry	Primary Sample Type	Centrifuge	Refrigerated	Frozen
Carbamazepine	Lithium Heparin Plasma	4 hours	1 week	1 week
Testosterone	Serum	24 hours	1 week	1 week
Theophylline	Lithium Heparin Plasma	4 hours	1 week	1 week
Tobramycin	Lithium Heparin Plasma	4 hours	1 week	1 week
Total Protein	Lithium Heparin Plasma	4 hours	1 week	1 week
Triglyceride	Lithium Heparin Plasma	4 hours	1 week	1 week
Troponin	Lithium Heparin Plasma	8 hours	3 days	1 week
TSH/TSH 3rd Gen	Lithium Heparin Plasma	24 hours	1 week	1 week

<i>Uric Acid</i>	Lithium Heparin Plasma	4 hours	1 week	1 week
<i>Valproic Acid</i>	Lithium Heparin Plasma	4 hours	2 days	1 week
<i>Vancomycin</i>	Lithium Heparin Plasma	4 hours	1 week	1 week
<i>Varicella Zoster</i>	Serum	4 hours	1 week	1 week
<i>Vitamin B12</i>	Lithium Heparin Plasma	4 hours	1 week	1 week
<i>Vitamin D25</i>	Serum	3 days	1 week	1 week
Chemistry Panel	Primary Sample Type	Centrifuge	Refrigerated	Frozen
<i>BMP</i>	Lithium Heparin Plasma	1 hour	1 week	1 week
<i>Hemo Dialysis Profile</i>	Lithium Heparin Plasma	4 hours	4 days	1 week
<i>Lipid</i>	Lithium Heparin Plasma	4 hours	1 week	1 week
<i>LFPA</i>	Lithium Heparin Plasma	4 hours	1 week	1 week
<i>Lytes</i>	Lithium Heparin Plasma	4 hours	1 week	1 week
<i>CMP</i>	Lithium Heparin Plasma	1 hour	1 week	1 week
<i>Prenatal Profile</i>	Serum & EDTA Plasma	4 hours	2 days	1 week

Urine Chemistry	Primary Sample Type	Room Temp	Refrigerated	Frozen
<i>Amylase</i>	Random or 8 hr. urine	2 days	1 week	1 week
<i>Calcium</i>	Random or 24 hr. urine	2 days	4 days	1 week
<i>Chloride</i>	Random or 24 hr. urine	1 week	1 week	1 week
<i>Creat</i>	Random or 24 hr. urine	2 days	6 days	1 week
<i>MicroAlbumin</i>	Random or 24 hr. urine	2 days	6 days	1 week
<i>Potassium</i>	Random or 24 hr. urine	1 week	1 week	1 week
<i>Sodium</i>	Random or 24 hr. urine	1 week	1 week	1 week
<i>Total Protein</i>	Random or 24 hr. urine	1 day	1 week	1 week
<i>Urine Drugs of Abuse Screen</i>	Random Urine	Not Recommended	2 days	1 week
<i>Uric Acid</i>	Random or 24 hr. urine	4 days pH>8	Not Recommended	Not Recommended
<i>Urine Osmolality</i>	Random Urine	1 day	1 day	Not Recommended

Hematology/Urology	Primary Sample Type	Room Temp	Refrigerated	
<i>A1C</i>	EDTA	3 days	7 days	
<i>CBC</i>	EDTA	24 hours	48 hours	
<i>Retic</i>	EDTA	24 hours	3 days	
<i>Sed Rate</i>	EDTA	4 hours	12 hours	
<i>Urinalysis</i>	Urine in BD Tube	3 days	3 days	
<i>Urinalysis</i>	Unpreserved Urine	30 minutes	6 hours	
<i>Urine Preg</i>	Urine in BD Tube	8 hours	3 days	
<i>Urine Preg</i>	Unpreserved Urine	30 minutes	6 hours	
Coagulation	Primary Sample Type	Room Temp	Refrigerated	Frozen
<i>Anti-Thrombin III</i>	NaCitrate Plasma *	4 hours	24 hours--plasma	2 weeks
<i>D Dimer</i>	NaCitrate Plasma or WB*	4 hours	Not Recommended	2 weeks
<i>Fibrinogen</i>	NaCitrate Plasma or WB*	4 hours	Not Recommended	2 weeks
<i>Lupus Anti-coagulant</i>	NaCitrate Plasma *	4 hours	24 hours--plasma	2 weeks
<i>Platelet Function Test (PFA)</i>	NaCitrate WB* only	4 hours	Not Recommended	Not Recommended
<i>Protein C</i>	NaCitrate Plasma *	4 hours	24 hours--plasma	2 weeks
<i>Protein S</i>	NaCitrate Plasma *	4 hours	24 hours--plasma	2 weeks
<i>Protime</i>	NaCitrate Plasma or WB*	24 hours	Not Recommended	Not Recommended
<i>PTT</i>	NaCitrate Plasma or WB*	4 hours	4 hours	Not Recommended
<i>Thrombin Time</i>	Na Citrate Plasma or WB*	4 hours	24 hours-plasma	Not Recommended
<i>Heparin Xa</i>	Na Citrate Plasma or WB*	Centrifuge in 1 hr**	Not Recommended	1 month

**Haxa good for 4 hours after centrifugation

* Please refer to the BD Vacutainer Plus Plastic Citrate Tube Draw Volume Guide

Cultures	Primary Sample Type	Room Temp	Refrigerated
See individual culture in client manual for specific information.			
CDIF	Stool	24 hrs.	5 days
Chlamydia/GC swab	Aptima unisex swab	60 days	60 days
Chlamydia/GC orange swab	Aptima Multitest swab-vaginal, rectal, oral (throat)	60 days	60 days
Chlamydia/GC urine	Aptima Urine kit	30 days	30 days
Stool-ENTPP enteric path	Put into CaryBlair w/in 4 hrs		48 hours
Sputum	Early Morning Sputum	2 hours	24 hours
Swabs	Swab of source	24 (GC)-48 hours	Not Recommended
Urine Culture	Unpreserved Urine	1 hour	24 hours
Urine Culture	Urine in BD Tube	48 hrs	48 hours
Wet Prep	Affirm Kit	72 hrs	
Molecular	Primary Sample Type	Room Temp	Refrigerated
Factor V, Factor II	EDTA	24 hours	15 days
HPV	Cervical in SurePath vial	7 days	Not Recommended