

ISSUE DATE: 5/30/2019

REVISION DATE: 4/21/2021

Blood Gas								
Test	Stability (PICO Syringe) No Ice- Unprocessed			Stability (Other Syringe) With Ice- Unprocessed				
pH	30 minutes			15 minutes				
pCO ₂	30 minutes			15 minutes				
pO ₂	30 Minutes			15 minutes				
Sodium (BGNA)	30 minutes			15 minutes				
Potassium (BGK)	30 minutes			15 minutes				
Chloride (BGCL)	30 minutes			15 minutes				
Hemoglobin (BGHGB)	30 minutes			15 minutes				
Hematocrit (BGHCT)	30 Minutes			15 minutes				
Glucose (BGGLU)	30 Minutes			15 minutes				
Ionized Calcium (ION CA)	3 hours			3 hours				
Lactate (LACT)	30 minutes			15 minutes (in tube)				
Test / Procedure Name	Unprocessed Specimens (Not Centrifuged)			Processed Specimens (On Gel or Clot)		Processed Specimens (Poured Off)		
	Room Temp	4° C	-20° C	Room Temp	4° C	Room Temp	4° C	-20° C
Chemistry								
Acetaminophen					14 days		14 days	45 days
Alpha-fetoprotein				3 days	7 days	3 days	5 days	
Albumin				2.5 months	5 months	2.5 months	5 months	3 months
Alkaline Phos				7 days	7 days	7 days	7 days	2 months
ALT				3 days	7 days	3 days	7 days	
Amikacin					7 days		7 days	14 days
Ammonia					15 minutes		2 hours	3 weeks
Amphetamines					5 days		5 days	
Amylase				7 days	7 days	7 days	7 days	1 year

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	Room Temp	4° C	-20° C	Room Temp	4° C	Room Temp	4° C	-20° C
Amylase- Urine				2 days	>10 days	2 days	>10 days	>3 weeks
Anti-HCV				3 days	7 days	3 days	7 days	
Anti-Tg				8 hours	8 hours	8 hours	72 hours	30 days
Anti-TPO				8 hours	8 hours	8 hours	72 hours	30 days
AST				4 days	7 days	4 days	7 days	12 weeks
AUSAB				3 days	7 days	3 days	7 days	
B12				3 days	7 days	3 days	7 days	
B2M				1 day	3 days	1 day	3 days	6 months
Barbituates					5 days		5 days	
Benzos					5 days		5 days	
BNP	4 hours	24 hours	3 months	4 hours	24 hours	4 hours	24 hours	3 months
C3					3 days		3 days	
C4				2 days	2 days	2 days	2 days	
CA-125					24 hours		7 days	>7 days
CA-15-3					24 hours		7 days	>7 days
Calcium				7 days	3 weeks	7 days	3 weeks	8 months
Calcium- Urine				2 days	4 days	2 days	4 days	3 weeks
Carbamezapine				24 hours	7 days	24 hours	7 days	
Carbon Dioxide (CO2)				1 day	7 days	1 day	7 days	2 weeks
CO2- Urine								
CEA					24 hours		7 days	
Chloride				7 days	7 days	7 days	7 days	>1 year
Chloride- Urine				7 days	7 days	7 days	7 days	7 days
Cholesterol				7 days	7 days	7 days	7 days	3 months
CK				2 days	7 days	2 days	7 days	
CK-MB				8 hours	8 hours	8 hours	72 hours	30 days
Cocaine					5 days		5 days	
Hepatitis B Core Ab (Total)				3 days	7 days	3 days	7 days	
Hepatitis B Core IgM Ab				3 days	7 days	3 days	7 days	

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	Room Temp	4° C	-20° C	Room Temp	4° C	Room Temp	4° C	-20° C
Cortisol					8 hours		14 days	30 days
Creatinine				7 days	7 days	7 days	7 days	3 months
Creatinine- Urine				2 days	6 days	2 days	6 days	6 months
CRP 16				15 days	2 months	15 days	2 months	3 years
CRP 32				15 days	2 months	15 days	2 months	3 years
Cyclosporine		7 days						
Digoxin				48 hours	48 hours	48 hours	48 hours	6 months
Direct Bilirubin				2 days	7 days	2 days	7 days	3 months
Direct LDL					5 days		5 days	
Ecstasy					5 days		5 days	
Estradiol					24 hours		7 days	
Ethanol				2 weeks	6 months	2 weeks	6 months	6 months
Ferritin					24 hours		7 days	12 months
Folate				ASAP	ASAP		7 days	30 days
Free PSA					3 hours		24 hours	
FSH					24 hours		7 days	12 months
FT3					24 hours		6 days	6 days
FT4					24 hours		6 days	6 days
Gentamicin				24 hours	7 days	24 hours	7 days	
GGT				7 days	7 days	7 days	7 days	>1 year
Glucose				2 days	7 days	2 days	7 days	3 months
Glucose- Urine				2 hours	2 hours	2 hours	2 hours	2 days
Glucose- CSF				5 hours	3 days	5 hours	3 days	>1 month
Haptoglobin					1 week		1 week	2 weeks
HAVAB-G				4 days	8 days	4 days	8 days	
HAVAB-M				3 days	7 days	3 days	7 days	
HBsAgQu				24 hours	6 days	24 hours	6 days	
HBsAgQu Confirmatory				24 hours	6 days	24 hours	6 days	
HCG					24 hours		7 days	

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	Room Temp	4° C	-20° C	Room Temp	4° C	Room Temp	4° C	-20° C
HDL				2 days	7 days	2 days	7 days	3 months
HIV				3 days	7 days	3 days	7 days	
Homocysteine					6 hours		14 days	
IgA				7 days	7 days	7 days	7 days	
IgG				7 days	7 days	7 days	7 days	
IgM				7 days	7 days	7 days	7 days	
Intact PTH				2 days	2 days	2 days	2 days	6 months
Iron				7 days	3 weeks	7 days	3 weeks	1 year
Lactic Acid-CSF								
LDH				7 days	4 days	7 days	4 days	6 weeks
LH					24 hours		7 days	
Lipase				7 days	7 days	7 days	7 days	1 year
Lithium				1 day	7 days	1 day	7 days	6 months
Magnesium				7 days	7 days	7 days	7 days	1 year
Magnesium- Urine				3 days	3 days	3 days	3 days	1 year
Methadone					5 days		5 days	
Methotrexate					2 weeks		2 weeks	
Microalbumin					6 days		6 days	
Myoglobin				8 hours	8 hours	8 hours	72 hours	30 days
Opiates					5 days		5 days	
Oxycodone				7 days	2 months	7 days	2 months	
PCP					5 days		5 days	
Phenobarbital				2 days	8 days	2 days	8 days	6 months
Phenytoin/Dilantin				3 days	8 days	3 days	8 days	3 months
Phosphorus				1 day	4 days	1 day	4 days	1 year
Phosphorus- Urine				2 days		2 days		
Potassium				1 week	1 week	1 week	1 week	1 year
Potassium- Urine				45 days	2 months	45 days	2 months	1 year
Prealbumin					3 days		3 days	6 months

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	Room Temp	4° C	-20° C	Room Temp	4° C	Room Temp	4° C	-20° C
Procalcitonin				8 hours	8 hours	24 hours	48 hours	15 days
Progesterone					24 hours		24 hours	>10 days
Prolactin					24 hours		7 days	12 months
Rheumatoid Factor				1 day	3 days	1 day	3 days	1 month
Salicylate							14 days	6 months
SARS-CoV-2 IgG	2 days			2 days	7 days			
Sirolimus		7 days						
Sodium				2 weeks	2 weeks	2 weeks	2 weeks	1 year
Sodium- Urine				45 days	45 days	45 days	45 days	1 year
Tacrolimus		7 days						>7 days
Testosterone				ASAP	ASAP	8 hours	7 days	
THC (Cannabinoids)					5 days		5 days	
Tobramycin							7 days	14 days
Total Bilirubin				1 day	7 days	1 day	7 days	6 months
Total Protein				1 week	1 month	1 week	1 month	2 months
Total PSA					3 hours		24 hours	
Total T3					24 hours		6 days	6 days
Total T4					24 hours		6 days	6 days
Transferrin					3 days		3 days	6 months
Triglyceride				2 days	7 days	2 days	7 days	>1 year
Tropnoin				8 hours	8 hours	8 hours	72 hours	30 days
TSH					24 hours		7 days	6 months
UIBC					8 hours		8 hours	
Urea Nitrogen (BUN)				7 days	7 days	7 days	7 days	1 year
Urea Nitrogen- Urine				2 days	7 days	2 days	7 days	1 month
Uric Acid				3 days	7 days	3 days	7 days	6 months
Uric Acid- Urine				4 days, pH>8		4 days, pH>8		Unstable
Urine Protein				24 hours	7 days	24 hours	7 days	1 month
CSF Protein				24 hours	6 days	24 hours	6 days	>1 year

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	Room Temp	4° C	-20° C	Room Temp	4° C	Room Temp	4° C	-20° C
Valproic Acid				2 days	7 days	2 days	7 days	3 months
Vanco				3 days	8 days	3 days	8 days	3 months
Vitamin D 25-OH				72 hours	72 hours	72 hours	12 days	1 year
Coagulation								
PT	24 hrs	24 hrs				24 hrs	24 hrs	6 months
APTT	4 hours	4 hours				4 hours	4 hours	6 months
Fibrinogen	4 hours	4 hours				4 hours	4 hours	6 months
Thrombin Time	4 hours	4 hours				4 hours	4 hours	6 months
D-Dimer	4 hours	24 hours				4 hours	24 hours	4 weeks
Factors 2,5,7,8,9,10	4 hours	4 hours				4 hours	4 hours	6 months
Protein C Activity	4 hours	4 hours				4 hours	4 hours	6 months
Free Protein S Antigen	4 hours	4 hours				4 hours	4 hours	6 months
Antithrombin III Activity	4 hours	4 hours				4 hours	4 hours	6 months
Anti-Xa (LMW Heparin)	4 hours	4 hours				4 hours	4 hours	6 months
Hit Antibody	4 hours	4 hours				4 hours	48 hrs	2 years
Serology and Electrophoresis								
ANA Screen - Antinuclear Antibody					7 days		7 days	long term
Cytomegalovirus (CMV) IgG Antibody					7 days		7 days	long term
Cytomegalovirus (CMV) IgM Antibody					7 days		7 days	long term
Epstein-Barr Viral Capsid Antigen IgG Antibody					7 days		7 days	long term
Epstein-Barr Viral Capsid Antigen IgG Antibody					7 days		7 days	long term
Hemoglobin A1C	18 hours	7 days	3 months (-80°C)					
Herpes Simplex Virus Type 1 and Type 2 IgG Antibody					7 days		7 days	long term
Monotest					8 days		8 days	long term
RPR (Rapid Plasma Reagin Test)					7 days		7 days	
Syphilis Total Antibody					7 days		7 days	long term
Varicella-Zoster Virus, IgG Antibody Titer					7 days		7 days	long term
Hemoglobin Electrophoresis		7 days					7 days	
Immunotyping Electrophoresis					7 days		7 days	1 month
Free Light Chains, Blood					4 weeks		4 weeks	long term

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Protein Electrophoresis, Serum					1 month		10 days	1 month
Urine Immunofixation, 24-hour Urine							7 days	1 month
Urine Immunofixation, Random Urine		7 days					7 days	1 month
Protein Electrophoresis, 24-hour Urine		7 days					7 days	
Protein Electrophoresis, Random Urine		7 days					7 days	
Urinalysis								
Urinalysis	2 hours	12 hours						
Urinalysis - Color	2 hours	12 hours						
Urinalysis - Clarity	2 hours	12 hours						
Urinalysis - Specific Gravity	2 hours	12 hours						
Urinalysis - pH	2 hours	12 hours						
Urinalysis - Protein	2 hours	12 hours						
Urinalysis - Glucose	2 hours	12 hours						
Urinalysis - Ketones	2 hours	12 hours						
Urinalysis - Bilirubin	2 hours	12 hours						
Urinalysis - Blood	2 hours	12 hours						
Urinalysis - Nitrite	2 hours	12 hours						
Urinalysis - Urobilinogen	2 hours	12 hours						
Urinalysis - Leukocyte Esterase	2 hours	12 hours						
Urinalysis - RBC	2 hours	12 hours						
Urinalysis - WBC	2 hours	12 hours						
Urinalysis - WBC Clumps	2 hours	12 hours						
Urinalysis - Bacteria	2 hours	12 hours						
Urinalysis - Budding Yeast	2 hours	12 hours						
Urinalysis - Hyphae Yeast	2 hours	12 hours						
Urinalysis - Squamous Epithelial	2 hours	12 hours						
Urinalysis - Renal Epithelial	2 hours	12 hours						
Urinalysis - Transitional Epithelial	2 hours	12 hours						
Urinalysis - Hyaline Cast	2 hours	12 hours						
Urinalysis - Granular Cast	2 hours	12 hours						

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Urinalysis - Triple Phosphate	2 hours	12 hours						
Urinalysis - Calcium Oxalate	2 hours	12 hours						
Urinalysis - Uric Acid Crystals	2 hours	12 hours						
Urinalysis - Amorphous	2 hours	12 hours						
Urinalysis - Trichomonas	2 hours	12 hours						
Osmolality, Serum				48 hours	48 hours	48 hours	48 hours	
Osmolality, Urine	24 hours	24 hours						
Beta-Hydroxybutyrate	30 minutes							
Fluid pH								
Urine hCG	24 hours	48 hours						

Hematology

CBC Panel by Test Name

WBC (white blood cell count)	24 hours	24 hours						
RBC (red blood cell count)	24 hours	24 hours						
Hgb (hemoglobin)	24 hours	24 hours						
HCT (hematocrit)	24 hours	24 hours						
MCV (mean cell volume)	24 hours	24 hours						
MCH (mean cell hemoglobin)	24 hours	24 hours						
MCHC (mean cell hemoglobin concentration)	24 hours	24 hours						
RDW (red cell distribution width)	24 hours	24 hours						
PLT (platelet count)	24 hours	24 hours						
IPF (immature platelet fraction)*	24 hours	24 hours						
MPV (mean platelet volume)*	24 hours	24 hours						

White Blood Cell Differential

Neutrophils	12 hours	48 hours						
Lymphocytes	12 hours	48 hours						
Monocytes	12 hours	48 hours						
Eosinophils	12 hours	48 hours						
Basophils	12 hours	48 hours						
Immature Granulocytes	12 hours	48 hours						

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nRBCs (nucleated RBCs)	12 hours	48 hours						
Other Hematology Tests								
Reticulocytes	24 hours	24 hours						
Platelet Citrate	24 hours	48 hours						
ESR (erythrocyte sedimentation rate)	12 hours	24 hours						
Sickle Solubility	**	**						
Hemoglobin F Slide Elution (KB test)	6 hours	72 hours						
Malaria	36 hours	72 hours						
* Platelet panel parameters only								
** up to 45 days when not clotted and stored at 4°C								

Shaded area means specimen stability is unknown.