

# CENTRA CARE Laboratory Services

## SPECIMEN STABILITY CHART

Chemistry	Primary Sample Type	Refrigerated
<i>Acetaminophen</i>	Lithium Heparin Plasma	1 week
<i>Albumin</i>	Lithium Heparin Plasma	1 week
<i>Alcohol</i>	Lithium Heparin Plasma	1 week
<i>Alk Phos</i>	Lithium Heparin Plasma	1 week
<i>ALT / SGPT</i>	Lithium Heparin Plasma	1 week
<i>Amylase</i>	Lithium Heparin Plasma	1 week
<i>ASO</i>	Serum	1 week
<i>AST / SGOT</i>	Lithium Heparin Plasma	1 week
<i>B12</i>	Lithium Heparin Plasma/Serum	1 week
<i>BHCG</i>	Lithium Heparin Plasma	1 week
<i>Bilirubin Total</i>	Lithium Heparin Plasma	1 week
<i>BNP</i>	EDTA	1 day
<i>BUN</i>	Lithium Heparin Plasma	1 week
<i>C3</i>	Lithium Heparin Plasma	1 week
<i>C4</i>	Lithium Heparin Plasma	2 days
<i>Ca125</i>	Lithium Heparin Plasma	1 week
<i>Calcium</i>	Lithium Heparin Plasma	1 week
<i>CEA</i>	Lithium Heparin Plasma	1 week
<i>Chloride</i>	Lithium Heparin Plasma	1 week
<i>Cholesterol</i>	Lithium Heparin Plasma	1 week
<i>CK</i>	Lithium Heparin Plasma	1 week
<i>CO</i>	EDTA	1 week
<i>CO2</i>	Lithium Heparin Plasma	1 week
<i>Cortisol</i>	Lithium Heparin Plasma	1 week
<i>Creatinine</i>	Lithium Heparin Plasma	1 week
<i>CRP</i>	Lithium Heparin Plasma	1 week
<i>CSF Protein</i>	CSF	6 days
<i>Digoxin</i>	Lithium Heparin Plasma	2 days
<i>Dilantin</i>	Lithium Heparin Plasma	1 week
<i>DNA</i>	Serum	3 days
<i>ELPP (Protein Electro)</i>	Serum/Urine	1 week
<i>ENA</i>	Serum	3 days
<i>Estradiol</i>	Lithium Heparin Plasma	1 week
<i>FANA</i>	Serum	3 days
<i>Ferritin</i>	Lithium Heparin Plasma	1 week
<i>Folate</i>	Serum	1 week
<i>Free T3</i>	Lithium Heparin Plasma	6 days
<i>Free T4</i>	Lithium Heparin Plasma	6 days
<i>FSH</i>	Lithium Heparin Plasma	1 week
<i>Gentamicin</i>	Lithium Heparin Plasma	1 week
<i>GGT</i>	Lithium Heparin Plasma	1 week
<i>Glucose</i>	Lithium Heparin Plasma	1 week
<i>HBC</i>	Serum	1 week
<i>HBs Ab</i>	Serum	2 days
<i>HBs Ag</i>	EDTA	2 days
<i>HCV</i>	Serum	1 week
<i>HDL</i>	Lithium Heparin Plasma	1 week

<b>Chemistry</b>	<b>Primary Sample Type</b>	<b>Refrigerated</b>
<i>Helicobacter</i>	Serum	5 days
<i>HIV 1/2</i>	Serum	1 week
<i>IBC</i>	Lithium Heparin Plasma	1 week
<i>IgG</i>	Lithium Heparin Plasma	1 week
<i>Iron</i>	Lithium Heparin Plasma	1 week
<i>Lactic Acid</i>	Na Heparinized WB on ice	30 min. on ice only
<i>LDH</i>	Serum	4 days
<i>LH</i>	Serum	1 week
<i>Lipase</i>	Lithium Heparin Plasma	1 week
<i>Lithium</i>	Serum	1 week
<i>LYME</i>	Serum	1 week
<i>Magnesium</i>	Lithium Heparin Plasma	1 week
<i>MB CK</i>	Lithium Heparin Plasma	3 days
<i>MicroAlbumin</i>	Urine	6 days
<i>MONO</i>	Serum	48 hrs
<i>Nbil</i>	Lithium Heparin Plasma	1 week
<i>NH3 / Ammonia</i>	Na Heparinized WB on ice	3 hrs
<i>Osmolality</i>	Lithium Heparin Plasma	1 day
<i>Phenobarb</i>	Lithium Heparin Plasma	1 week
<i>Phosphorus</i>	Lithium Heparin Plasma	4 days
<i>Potassium</i>	Lithium Heparin Plasma	1 week
<i>Prolactin</i>	Lithium Heparin Plasma	1 week
<i>PSA</i>	Serum	1 day
<i>PTH</i>	EDTA	2 days or 24 hrs at Room Temp.
<i>Rheumatoid Factor</i>	Serum	3 days
<i>RPR</i>	Serum	5 days
<i>Rubella</i>	Lithium Heparin Plasma	1 week
<i>Salicylate</i>	Lithium Heparin Plasma	1 week
<i>Sodium</i>	Lithium Heparin Plasma	1 week
<i>T4</i>	Lithium Heparin Plasma	6 days
<i>Tegretol</i>	Lithium Heparin Plasma	7 days
<i>Testosterone</i>	Lithium Heparin Plasma	1 week
<i>Theophylline</i>	Lithium Heparin Plasma	1 week
<i>Tobramycin</i>	Lithium Heparin Plasma	1 week
<i>Total Protein</i>	Lithium Heparin Plasma	1 week
<i>Triglyceride</i>	Lithium Heparin Plasma	1 week
<i>Troponin</i>	Lithium Heparin Plasma	3 days
<i>TSH</i>	Lithium Heparin Plasma	1 week
<i>Uric Acid</i>	Lithium Heparin Plasma	1 week
<i>Valproic Acid</i>	Lithium Heparin Plasma	2 days
<i>Vancomycin</i>	Lithium Heparin Plasma	1 week
<b>Urine Chemistry</b>	<b>Primary Sample Type</b>	<b>Refrigerated</b>
<i>Creat</i>	Random or 24 hr. urine	6 days
<i>Amylase</i>	Random, 8 hr. or 12 hr. urine	7 days
<i>Calcium</i>	Random or 24 hr. urine	4 days
<i>K</i>	Random or 24 hr. urine	7 days
<i>Na</i>	Random or 24 hr. urine	7 days
<i>Total Protein</i>	Random or 24 hr. urine	7 days
<i>Tox Screen</i>	Random Urine	5 days

<b>Uric Acid</b>	Random or 24 hr. urine	Not recommended
<b>Chemistry Profiles</b>	<b>Primary Sample Type</b>	<b>Refrigerated</b>
<b>Chem 8</b>	Lithium Heparin Plasma	1 week
<b>Dialysis</b>	Lithium Heparin Plasma	5 days
<b>LDL</b>	Lithium Heparin Plasma	5 days
<b>Lipid</b>	Lithium Heparin Plasma	1 week
<b>LFA</b>	Lithium Heparin Plasma	1 week
<b>Lytes</b>	Lithium Heparin Plasma	1 week
<b>Metabolic</b>	Lithium Heparin Plasma	1 week

<b>Hematology</b>	<b>Primary Sample Type</b>	<b>Room Temp</b>	<b>Refrigerated</b>
<b>A1C</b>	EDTA	3 days	7 days
<b>CBC</b>	EDTA	24 hrs	48 hrs
<b>Retic</b>	EDTA	24 hrs	72 hrs
<b>Sedrate</b>	EDTA	4 hrs	24 hrs
<b>Factor V (FFL), Factor II (FII) or F2F5</b>	EDTA or ACD	5 days - Prefer refrigerated	

<b>Coagulation/Urinalysis</b>	<b>Primary Sample Type</b>	<b>Room Temp</b>	<b>Refrigerated</b>
<b>Anti-Thrombin III</b>	NaCitrate Plasma *	4 hrs	24 hrs
<b>D Dimer</b>	NaCitrate Plasma or WB*	4 hrs	not recommended
<b>Fibrinogen</b>	NaCitrate Plasma or WB*	4 hrs	not recommended
<b>Lupus Anti-coagulant</b>	NaCitrate Plasma *	4 hrs	24 hrs
<b>Platelet Function Test (PFA)</b>	NaCitrate Plasma *	4 hrs	not recommended
<b>Protein C</b>	NaCitrate Plasma *	4 hrs	24 hrs
<b>Protein S</b>	NaCitrate Plasma *	4 hrs	24 hrs
<b>Prottime</b>	NaCitrate Plasma or WB*	24 hrs	24 hrs
<b>PTT</b>	NaCitrate Plasma or WB*	4 hrs	not recommended
<b>Thrombin Time</b>	NaCitrate Plasma or WB*	4 hrs	not recommended
<b>UMAC</b>	Urine in BD Tube	72 hrs	72 hrs
<b>Urine Preg</b>	Urine in BD Tube	8 hrs	72 hrs
	Unpreserved Urine	30 min.	6 hrs

<b>Cultures</b>	<b>Primary Sample Type</b>	<b>Room Temp</b>	<b>Refrigerated</b>
<b>See individual culture in client manual for specific information.</b>			
<b>Swabs</b>	Swab of source	24 hrs.	
<b>Urine Culture</b>	Urine (BD Tube)	48 hrs	48 hrs
	Unpreserved Urine	1 hr.	24 hrs )
<b>Raw Stools</b>	Stool	96 hrs in parapak	1 hr.
<b>CDIF</b>	Stool	not recommended	72 hrs.
<b>Chlamydia/GC</b>	Endocervical Culturette Direct swab Urethral Mini-Tip Culturette Swab Urine	not recommended	6 days

Updated:8/1/11

\* Please refer to the [BD Vacutainer Plus Plastic Citrate Tube Draw Volume Guide](#)