



## NORTHERN ZONE PATHOLOGY AND LABORATORY MEDICINE COLCHESTER EAST HANTS HEALTH CENTRE LABORATORY TEST CATALOGUE

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### **Specimen and Requisition Requirements**

All specimens received in the Laboratory must be clearly labeled with:

- the patient's first and last name,
- HCN
- Date of Birth
- Collector's initials
- Date of collection
- Time of Collection
- Specimens must be accompanied by a completed requisition, including patient's first and last name, Date of birth, Health card number as well as physician name, clinical notes, the collection date, collection time and collector's name, as well as the Patient Information Form. (NNZ-F-LS-0023)

Ensure that specimens are not leaking and are delivered to the Laboratory within **1.5 hours**. Some specimens specify quicker delivery time required. Please note the date and time of last dose if drug testing is requested.

**Refer to pages 39 to 44 for the collection requirements for Transfusion Medicine specimens.**

### **Tests Not in Catalogue**

Please view Capital Health Test Catalogue on NSH Intranet or ICL catalogue for tests not performed at Colchester East Hants Health Centre. Contact Colchester East Hants Health Centre Collection Service at **902-898-2803** for information on tests not found in these catalogues.

Information for sample type and collection instructions of microbiology specimens not found in this catalogue may be found in the provincial microbiology user's manual.

### **Collection, Handling and Transport Instructions**

The specimens need to be properly collected, processed, packaged and transported in accordance with laboratory policies and procedures, in a timely manner and under conditions that will not compromise either the integrity of the specimen or patient confidentiality. Transportation must be compliant with the Transportation of Dangerous Goods (TDG) Act. Please ensure no patient information is visible when packaging specimens to be transported to the laboratory.

It is essential that an adequate volume/ quantity of specimen be submitted for analysis. Minimum volume / quantity information is provided in each catalogue listing whenever applicable.



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LABORATORY TEST CATALOGUE**

Hemolyzed or lipemic specimens may alter certain test results and may be rejected.

All blood and urine specimens being dropped off must follow the guidelines of the independent phlebotomist agreement (<http://www.nshealth.ca/about-us/doing-business-us/independent-phlebotomy>).

**Refer to pages 45 to 55 for the collection requirements for Microbiology Specimens**

For Microbiology tests not found in this manual please view Provincial Microbiology User's Manual PPHLN – M0008-02

**24 Hour Urine Calcium**

Mnemonic	<b>U24CA</b>
Specimen	<b>Urine</b>
Collection Tube	<b>24 Hour Urine Container with 25mL 6N HCL additive</b>
Special Instructions	<b>Transport and store refrigerated upon arrival to the laboratory</b>

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**24 Hour Calcium Creatinine Plus Ratio**

Mnemonic	<b>U24CACREAT</b>
Specimen	<b>Urine</b>
Collection Tube	<b>24 Hour Urine Container with 25mL 6N HCL additive</b>
Special Instructions	<b>Transport and store refrigerated upon arrival to the laboratory</b>

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**24 Hour Urine Chloride**

Mnemonic	<b>U24CL</b>
Specimen	<b>Urine</b>
Collection Tube	<b>24 Hour Urine Container – No Preservative</b>
Special Instructions	<b>Transport and store refrigerated upon arrival to the laboratory</b>

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**24 Hour Urine Creatinine**

Mnemonic	<b>U24CREAT</b>
Specimen	<b>Urine</b>
Collection Tube	<b>24 Hour Urine Container – No Preservative recommended or 25mL 6N HCL additive is acceptable</b>
Special Instructions	<b>Transport and store refrigerated upon arrival to the laboratory</b>

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**24 Hour Urine Creatinine Clearance**

Mnemonic	<b>CRECL</b>
Specimen	<b>Urine</b>
Collection Tube	<b>24 Hour Urine Container – No Preservative recommended or 25mL 6N HCL additive is acceptable. Blood creatinine required within 24 hours before or 24 hours after the collection of the 24 hour urine sample. Patient height and weight required.</b>
Special Instructions	<b>Transport and store refrigerated upon arrival to the laboratory.</b>

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**24 Hour Urine Magnesium**

Mnemonic	<b>U24MG</b>
Specimen	<b>Urine</b>
Collection Tube	<b>24 Hour Urine Container with 25mL 6N HCL additive</b>
Special Instructions	<b>Transport and store refrigerated upon arrival to the laboratory</b>

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**24 Hour Urine Microalbumin**

Mnemonic	<b>U24MALB</b>
Specimen	<b>Urine</b>
Collection Tube	<b>24 Hour Urine Container – No Preservative</b>
Special Instructions	<b>Transport and store refrigerated upon arrival to the laboratory</b>

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**24 Hour Urine Osmolality**

Mnemonic	<b>U24OSMO</b>
Specimen	<b>Urine</b>
Collection Tube	<b>24 Hour Urine Container – No Preservative</b>
Special Instructions	<b>Transport and store refrigerated upon arrival to the laboratory</b>

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**24 Hour Urine pH**

Mnemonic	<b>U24PH</b>
Specimen	<b>Urine</b>
Collection Tube	<b>24 Hour Urine Container</b>
Special Instructions	<b>Transport and store refrigerated upon arrival to the laboratory</b>

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**24 Hour Urine Potassium**

Mnemonic	<b>U24K</b>
Specimen	<b>Urine</b>
Collection Tube	<b>24 Hour Urine Container – No Preservative</b>
Special Instructions	<b>Transport and store refrigerated upon arrival to the laboratory</b>

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**24 Hour Urine Total Protein**

Mnemonic	<b>U24TP</b>
Specimen	<b>Urine</b>
Collection Tube	<b>24 Hour Urine Container – No Preservative</b>
Special Instructions	<b>Transport and store refrigerated upon arrival to the laboratory</b>

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**24 Hour Urine Urea**

Mnemonic	<b>U24UREA</b>
Specimen	<b>Urine</b>
Collection Tube	<b>24 Hour Urine Container – No Preservative</b>
Special Instructions	<b>Transport and store refrigerated upon arrival to the laboratory</b>

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**24 Hour Urine Uric Acid**

Mnemonic	<b>U2URIC</b>
Specimen	<b>Urine</b>
Collection Tube	<b>24 Hour Urine Container with 10mL of 5% NaOH additive</b>
Special Instructions	<b>Transport and store refrigerated upon arrival to the laboratory</b>

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**24 Hour Urine Sodium**

Mnemonic	<b>U24NA</b>
Specimen	<b>Urine</b>
Collection Tube	<b>24 Hour Urine Container – No Preservative</b>
Special Instructions	<b>Transport and store refrigerated upon arrival to the laboratory</b>

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**Acetaminophen (Tylenol)**

Mnemonic	<b>ACET</b>
Specimen	<b>Plasma or Serum</b>
Collection Tube	<b>4 mL sodium heparin (dark green) or 4 mL no additive (red)</b>
For Lab Use only:	<b>Must be spun within 2 hours, separate plasma/serum from cells within 2 hours of collection.</b>

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**Activated Partial Thromboplastin Time**

Mnemonic	<b>PTT</b>
Specimen	<b>Plasma</b>
Collection Tube	<b>2.7 mL 3.2% sodium citrate (light blue)</b>
Special Instructions	<b>Sample must be filled to line; inadequate volume will result in specimen rejection.</b>
For Lab Use only:	<b>Spin heparinized patients within one hour of collection and non heparinized within 4 hours of collection.</b>

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**Activated Partial Thromboplastin Time DADE – Colchester Only**

Mnemonic	<b>PTT</b>
Specimen	<b>Plasma</b>
Collection Tube	<b>2 x 2.7 mL 3.2% sodium citrate (light blue)</b>
Special Instructions	<b>Sample must be filled to line; inadequate volume will result in specimen rejection. Dade test not orderable in Meditech, please indicate on requisition "Dade."</b>

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## Albumin

Mnemonic	<b>ALB</b>
Specimen	<b>Plasma</b>
Collection Tube	<b>3 mL lithium heparin gel separator tube (light green)</b>
For Lab Use only:	<b>Must be spun within 2 hours</b>

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## Albumin/Creatinine Ratio Urine

Mnemonic	<b>U ACR</b>
Specimen	<b>Urine</b>
Collection Tube	<b>Sterile urine container &gt;3 mL</b>

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## Alcohol (Ethanol)

Mnemonic	<b>ETOH</b>
Specimen	<b>Plasma or Serum</b>
Collection Tube	<b>4 mL sodium heparin (dark green) or 4 mL no additive (red)</b>
For Lab Use only:	<b>Cannot be added on if alcohol swab is used. Must be spun within 2 hours, separate plasma/serum from cells within 2 hours of collection.</b>

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## Alkaline Phosphatase

Mnemonic	<b>ALK</b>
Specimen	<b>Plasma</b>
Collection Tube	<b>3 mL lithium heparin gel separator tube (light green)</b>
For Lab Use only:	<b>Must be spun within 2 hours</b>

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## Alanine Amino Transferase

Mnemonic	<b>ALT</b>
Specimen	<b>Plasma</b>
Collection Tube	<b>3 mL lithium heparin gel separator tube (light green)</b>
For Lab Use only:	<b>Must be spun within 2 hours</b>

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### **Amylase**

Mnemonic	<b>AMY</b>
Specimen	<b>Plasma</b>
Collection Tube	<b>3 mL lithium heparin gel separator tube (light green)</b>
For Lab Use only:	<b>Must be spun within 2 hours</b>

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### **Anaplasma**

Mnemonic	<b>ANAPLASMA</b>
Specimen	<b>Serum or Plasma</b>
Collection Tube	<b>3.5 mL gold stoppered serum separator tube and one lavender EDTA</b>
Special Instructions	<b>Onset of Symptoms required. Must be received at regional site within 4 hours of collection.</b>
For Lab Use Only	<b>Allow to clot <span style="background-color: yellow;">30 to 60 minutes before centrifuging</span></b>

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### **Arterial Cord Blood Gas**

Mnemonic	<b>ACOBG</b>
Specimen	<b>Cord Blood</b>
Collection Tube	<b>Syringe</b>
Special Instructions	<b>Transport at room temperature</b>
Stability	<b>Optimal analysis is within 30 minutes of collection, to a maximum of 60 minutes.</b>
Lab Use Only	<b>Please use clot catcher when running.</b>

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### **Arterial Blood Gas**

Mnemonic	<b>ABG</b>
Specimen	<b>Arterial sample</b>
Collection Tube	<b>Syringe</b>
Special Instructions	<b>Transport at room temperature</b>
Stability	<b>Optimal analysis is within 30 minutes of collection, to a maximum of 60 minutes</b>

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### **Aspartate Amino Transferase**

Mnemonic	<b>AST</b>
Specimen	<b>Plasma</b>
Collection Tube	<b>3 mL lithium heparin gel separator tube (light green)</b>
For Lab Use only	<b>must be spun within 2 hours</b>

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### **Babesia**

Mnemonic	<b>BABESIA</b>
Specimen	<b>Serum or Plasma</b>
Collection Tube	<b>3.5 mL gold stoppered serum separator tube and one lavender EDTA</b>
Special Instructions	<b>Onset of Symptoms required. Must be received at regional site within 4 hours of collection</b>
For Lab Use Only	<b>Allow to clot 30 to 60 minutes before centrifuging</b>

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### **Bilirubin, Direct**

Mnemonic	<b>BILD</b>
Specimen	<b>Plasma</b>
Collection Tube	<b>3 mL lithium heparin gel separator tube (light green)</b>
Special Instructions	<b>Must be spun within 2 hours</b>
Stability	<b>Protect from light</b>

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### **Bilirubin, Total**

Mnemonic	<b>BILT</b>
Specimen	<b>Plasma</b>
Collection Tube	<b>3 mL lithium heparin gel separator tube (light green)</b>
Special Instructions	<b>Must be spun within 2 hours</b>
Stability	<b>Protect from light</b>

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### **Body Fluids – Albumin**

Mnemonic	<b>BFALB</b>
Specimen	<b>Peritoneal fluid, Pericardial fluid, Pleural fluid</b>
Collection Tube	<b>4 mL sodium heparin (dark green)</b>
For Lab Use only:	<b>Must be spun within 2 hours of collection</b>

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### **Body Fluids – ALT**

Mnemonic	<b>BFALT</b>
Specimen	<b>Peritoneal fluid, Pericardial fluid, Pleural fluid</b>
Collection Tube	<b>4 mL sodium heparin (dark green)</b>
For Lab Use only:	<b>Must be spun within 2 hours of collection</b>

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### **Body Fluids – Amylase**

Mnemonic	<b>BFAMY</b>
Specimen	<b>Peritoneal fluid, Pericardial fluid, Pleural fluid</b>
Collection Tube	<b>4 mL sodium heparin (dark green)</b>
For Lab Use only:	<b>Must be spun within 2 hours of collection.</b>

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### **Body Fluids – Cell Count/Differential**

Mnemonic	<b>BFCC</b>
Specimen	<b>Peritoneal fluid, Pericardial fluid, Pleural fluid, Synovial fluid</b>
Collection Tube	<b>3 or 4ml EDTA (mauve)</b>
Special Instructions use only:	<b>Do not send in pneumatic tube system. Deliver ASAP to the Lab. For Lab Must be tested within 2 hours of collection to maintain cell integrity, if delayed keep at 2-8°C</b>

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### **Body Fluids – Cholesterol**

Mnemonic	<b>BFCHOL</b>
Specimen	<b>Peritoneal fluid, Pericardial fluid, Pleural fluid</b>
Collection Tube	<b>4 mL sodium heparin (dark green)</b>
For Lab Use only:	<b>Must be spun within 2 hours of collection.</b>

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### **Body Fluids – Creatinine**

Mnemonic	<b>BFCREAT</b>
Specimen	<b>Peritoneal fluid, Pericardial fluid, Pleural fluid</b>
Collection Tube	<b>4 mL sodium heparin (dark green)</b>
For Lab Use only:	<b>Must be spun within 2 hours of collection.</b>

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### **Body Fluids – Crystal**

Mnemonic	<b>BFCRYS</b>
Specimen	<b>Synovial fluid</b>
Collection Tube	<b>4 mL sodium heparin (dark green)</b>
For Lab Use only:	<b>Do not Spin.</b>

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### **Body Fluids – Glucose**

Mnemonic	<b>BFGLU</b>
Specimen	<b>Peritoneal fluid, Pericardial fluid, Pleural fluid</b>
Collection Tube	<b>4 mL sodium heparin (dark green)</b>
For Lab Use only:	<b>Must be spun within 2 hours of collection.</b>

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### **Body Fluids – LDH**

Mnemonic	<b>BFLDH</b>
Specimen	<b>Peritoneal fluid, Pericardial fluid, Pleural fluid</b>
Collection Tube	<b>4 mL sodium heparin (dark green)</b>
For Lab Use only:	<b>Must be spun within 2 hours of collection.</b>

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### **Body Fluids – pH**

Mnemonic	<b>BFPH</b>
Specimen	<b>Peritoneal fluid, Pericardial fluid, Pleural fluid, Synovial fluid</b>
Collection Tube	<b>Lithium Heparin Syringe – transport on ice</b>
For Lab Use only:	<b>Optimal analysis is within 60 minutes of collection, acceptable up to 4 hours refrigerated (4°C). Minimum volume 1.0 mL sample. Please use clot catcher when running.</b>

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### **Body Fluids – Potassium**

Mnemonic	<b>BFK</b>
Specimen	<b>Peritoneal fluid, Pericardial fluid, Pleural fluid</b>
Collection Tube	<b>4 mL sodium heparin (dark green)</b>
For Lab Use only:	<b>Must be spun within 2 hours of collection.</b>

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### **Body Fluids – Sodium**

Mnemonic	<b>BFNA</b>
Specimen	<b>Peritoneal fluid, Pericardial fluid, Pleural fluid</b>
Collection Tube	<b>4 mL sodium heparin (dark green)</b>
For Lab Use only:	<b>Must be spun within 2 hours of collection.</b>

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### **Body Fluids – Total Bilirubin**

Mnemonic	<b>BFBILT</b>
Specimen	<b>Peritoneal fluid, Pericardial fluid, Pleural fluid</b>
Collection Tube	<b>4 mL sodium heparin (dark green)</b>
For Lab Use only:	<b>Must be spun within 2 hours of collection.</b>

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### Body Fluids – Total Protein

Mnemonic	<b>BFTP</b>
Specimen	<b>Peritoneal fluid, Pericardial fluid, Pleural fluid</b>
Collection Tube	<b>4 mL sodium heparin (dark green)</b>
For Lab Use only:	<b>Must be spun within 2 hours of collection.</b>

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### Body Fluids – Triglyceride

Mnemonic	<b>BFTRIG</b>
Specimen	<b>Peritoneal fluid, Pericardial fluid, Pleural fluid</b>
Collection Tube	<b>4 mL sodium heparin (dark green)</b>
For Lab Use only:	<b>Must be spun within 2 hours of collection.</b>

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### Body Fluids – Urea

Mnemonic	<b>BFUREA</b>
Specimen	<b>Peritoneal fluid, Pericardial fluid, Pleural fluid</b>
Collection Tube	<b>4 mL sodium heparin (dark green)</b>
For Lab Use only:	<b>Must be spun within 2 hours of collection.</b>

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### Body Fluids – Uric Acid

Mnemonic	<b>BFURIC</b>
Specimen	<b>Peritoneal fluid, Pericardial fluid, Pleural fluid</b>
Collection Tube	<b>4 mL sodium heparin (dark green)</b>
For Lab Use only:	<b>Must be spun within 2 hours of collection.</b>

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### Brain Natriuretic Peptide

Mnemonic	<b>PROBNP-NT</b>
Specimen	<b>Plasma</b>
Collection Tube	<b>3 mL lithium heparin gel separator tube (light green)</b>
For Lab Use only:	<b>Must be spun within 2 hours of collection.</b>

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## **Ca125**

Mnemonic	<b>CA-125</b>
Specimen	<b>Serum</b>
Collection Tube	<b>3.5 mL gold stoppered serum separator tube or 4 mL no additive (red)</b>
For Lab Use only:	<b>Allow to clot 30 to 60 minutes before centrifuging</b> <b>Must be spun within 2 hours, separate plasma/serum from cells within 2 hours of collection.</b>

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## **Calcium, Total**

Mnemonic	<b>CA</b>
Specimen	<b>Plasma</b>
Collection Tube	<b>3 mL lithium heparin gel separator tube (light green)</b>
For Lab Use only:	<b>Must be spun within 2 hours of collection.</b>

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## **Calcium, Random (Urine)**

Mnemonic	<b>UCAR</b>
Specimen	<b>Urine</b>
Collection Tube	<b>Sterile urine container</b>

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## **Calcium Creatinine Ratio**

Mnemonic	<b>UCA-CREAR</b>
Specimen	<b>Urine</b>
Collection Tube	<b>Sterile urine container</b>
Special Instructions	<b>N/A</b>

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## **Capillary Blood Gas**

Mnemonic	<b>CBG</b>
Specimen	<b>Capillary x 2</b>
Collection Tube	<b>Heparin coated capillary tube (70uL)</b>
Special Instructions	<b>Must be well mixed by flea and magnet. Transport at room temperature</b>
Stability	<b>Sample must be run within 15 minutes of collection. Cancel specimen if &gt; 15 minutes old.</b>

### Carbamazepine

Mnemonic	<b>CARB</b>
Specimen	<b>Serum</b>
Collection Tube	<b>4 mL no additive (red), do not use gel separators</b>
Special Instructions	<b>Date and time of last dose required</b>
For Lab Use Only	<b>Allow to clot for one hour. Separate plasma/serum from cells within 2 hours of collection.</b>

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### Chloride, Random (Urine)

Mnemonic	<b>UCLR</b>
Specimen	<b>Urine</b>
Collection Tube	<b>Sterile urine container</b>

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### Complete Blood Count

Mnemonic	<b>CBC</b>
Specimen	<b>Whole Blood</b>
Collection Tube	<b>4 ml EDTA (mauve) or 3 ml EDTA (mauve)</b>

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### Carcinoembryonic Antigen

Mnemonic	<b>CEA</b>
Specimen	<b>Serum</b>
Collection Tube	<b>3.5 ml gold stoppered serum separator tube</b>
For Lab use only	<b>Allow to clot 30 to 60 minutes before centrifuging</b>

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### Cholesterol Level

Mnemonic	<b>CHOL</b>
	<b>Order LIPID if TRIG, LDL, HDL are ordered as well</b>
Specimen	<b>Plasma</b>
Collection Tube	<b>3 mL lithium heparin gel separator tube (light green)</b>
For Lab use only	<b>Must be spun within 2 hours of collection</b>

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### **Creatine Phosphokinase**

Mnemonic	<b>CK</b>
Specimen	<b>Plasma</b>
Collection Tube	<b>3 mL lithium heparin gel separator tube (light green)</b>
For Lab use only	<b>Must be spun within 2 hours of collection.</b>

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### **Cortisol – 30 Minutes**

Mnemonic	<b>CORT30MIN</b>
Specimen	<b>Serum</b>
Collection Tube	<b>3.5 ml gold stoppered serum separator tube or 4 mL no additive (red)</b>
Special Instructions	<b>Sample drawn 30 minutes post dose.</b>
For Lab use only	<b>Allow to clot <b>30 to 60 minutes before centrifuging; red 1 hour</b>, separate plasma/serum from cells within 2 hours of collection.</b>

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### **Cortisol – 60 minutes**

Mnemonic	<b>CORT60MIN</b>
Specimen	<b>Serum</b>
Collection Tube	<b>3.5 ml gold stoppered serum separator tube or 4 mL no additive (red)</b>
Special Instructions	<b>Sample drawn 60 minutes post dose.</b>
For Lab use only	<b>Allow to clot <b>30 to 60 minutes before centrifuging; red 1 hour</b>, separate plasma/serum from cells within 2 hours of collection.</b>

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### **Cortisol - AM**

Mnemonic	<b>CORTAM</b>
Specimen	<b>Serum</b>
Collection Tube	<b>3.5 ml gold stoppered serum separator tube or 4 mL no additive (red)</b>
Special Instructions	<b>Collect sample between 0700-0900</b>
For Lab use only	<b>Allow to clot <b>30 to 60 minutes before centrifuging; red 1 hour</b>, separate plasma/serum from cells within 2 hours of collection.</b>

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### **Cortisol - PM**

Mnemonic	<b>CORTPM</b>
Specimen	<b>Serum</b>
Collection Tube	<b>3.5 ml gold stoppered serum separator tube or 4 mL no additive (red)</b>
Special Instructions	<b>Collect sample between 1500-1700</b>
For Lab use only	<b>Allow to clot 30 to 60 minutes before centrifuging; red 1 hour, separate plasma/serum from cells within 2 hours of collection.</b>

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### **Cortisol DST**

Mnemonic	<b>CORTDST</b>
Specimen	<b>Serum</b>
Collection Tube	<b>3.5 ml gold stoppered serum separator or 4 mL no additive (red)</b>
For Lab use only	<b>Allow to clot 30 to 60 minutes before centrifuging; red 1 hour, separate plasma/serum from cells within 2 hours of collection.</b>

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### **Cortisol - Random**

Mnemonic	<b>CORT</b>
Specimen	<b>Serum</b>
Collection Tube	<b>3.5 ml gold stoppered serum separator tube or 4 mL no additive (red)</b>
For Lab use only	<b>Allow to clot 30 to 60 minutes before centrifuging; red 1 hour, separate plasma/serum from cells within 2 hours of collection.</b>

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### **Creatinine**

Mnemonic	<b>EGFR ordered on outpatients, CREAT ordered on inpatients.</b>
Specimen	<b>Plasma</b>
Collection Tube	<b>3 mL lithium heparin gel separator tube (light green)</b>
For Lab use only	<b>Must be spun within 2 hours of collection</b>

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### **Creatinine (Urine)**

Mnemonic	UCREATR
Specimen	Urine
Collection Tube	Sterile urine container

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### **C-Reactive Protein**

Mnemonic	HS-CRP
Specimen	Plasma
Collection Tube	3 mL lithium heparin gel separator tube (light green)
For Lab use only	Allow SST to clot <b>30 to 60 minutes before centrifuging</b> <b>Must be spun within 2 hours of collection</b>

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### **Cerebrospinal Fluid – Total Protein**

Mnemonic	CSFTP
Specimen	Cerebrospinal Fluid
Collection Tube	Sterile CSF Containers
Special Instructions	Tube #2 if it is a bleed, do not send in pneumatic tube system.
Stability	Test within 30 minutes of collection

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### **Cerebrospinal Fluid – Glucose**

Mnemonic	CSFGLU
Specimen	Cerebrospinal Fluid
Collection Tube	Sterile CSF Containers
Special Instructions	Tube #1 if it is an infection, do not send in pneumatic tube system
Stability	Test within 30 minutes of collection

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### **Cerebrospinal Fluid – Cell Count**

Mnemonic	<b>CSFCC</b>
Specimen	<b>Cerebrospinal Fluid</b>
Collection Tube	<b>Sterile CSF Containers</b>
Special Instructions	<b>Tube #1 and #4 if it is a bleed. Tube #2 if it is an infection, do not send in pneumatic tube system.</b>
Stability	<b>Test within 30 minutes of collection</b>

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### **D-Dimer Quantitative**

Mnemonic	<b>DDQUAN</b>
Specimen	<b>Plasma</b>
Collection Tube	<b>2.7 ml 3.2% sodium citrate (blue)</b>
Special Instructions	<b>Tube needs to be filled to the line and tested within 4 hours of collection</b>

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### **Digoxin**

Mnemonic	<b>DIG</b>
Specimen	<b>Plasma or serum</b>
Collection Tube	<b>3 ml lithium Heparin (light green) or 4 mL no additive (red)</b>
Special Instructions	<b>Indicate time of last dose.</b>
For Lab use Only	<b>Allow to clot for 1-hour, separate plasma/serum from cells within 2 hours of collection.</b>

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### **Dilantin (Phenytoin)**

Mnemonic	<b>PHNY</b>
Specimen	<b>Plasma or Serum</b>
Collection Tube	<b>4 mL no additive (red) or 4 mL sodium heparin (dark green) Do not use gel separators.</b>
Special Instructions	<b>Last dose needs to be noted in Meditech with date and time.</b>
For Lab use Only	<b>Allow to clot for 1-hour, separate plasma/serum from cells within 2 hours of collection.</b>

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### **Electrolytes (Sodium, Potassium & Chloride)**

Mnemonic	<b>LYTES</b>
Specimen	<b>Plasma</b>
Collection Tube	<b>3 mL lithium heparin gel separator tube (light green)</b>
For Lab use only	<b>Must be spun within 2 hours of collection</b>

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### **Erythrocyte Sedimentation Rate**

Mnemonic	<b>ESR</b>
Specimen	<b>Whole Blood</b>
Collection Tube	<b>4 mL EDTA (lavender)</b>
Special Instructions	<b>At least 2.5ml of specimen is required for testing.</b>

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### **Estradiol**

Mnemonic	<b>EST</b>
Specimen	<b>Serum</b>
Collection Tube	<b>3.5 mL gold stoppered serum separator tube</b>
For Lab use only	<b>Allow to clot <span style="background-color: yellow;">30 to 60 minutes before centrifuging</span></b>

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### **Ferritin**

Mnemonic	<b>FER</b>
Specimen	<b>Serum</b>
Collection Tube	<b>3.5 mL gold stoppered serum separator tube</b>
Special Instructions	<b>Allow to clot <span style="background-color: yellow;">30 to 60 minutes before centrifuging</span></b>

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### **Fetal Fibronectin**

Mnemonic	<b>FFIBR</b>
Specimen	<b>Cervicovaginal swab</b>
Collection Tube	<b>200 µL of sample required in 1 mL extraction buffer tube.</b>
Special Instructions	<b>Do not send in pneumatic tube system.</b>

---

### **Fibrinogen Screen**

Mnemonic	<b>FIB</b>
Specimen	<b>Plasma</b>
Collection Tube	<b>2.7 ml 3.2% sodium citrate (blue)</b>
Special Instructions	<b>Tube must be filled to the line.</b>

---

### **Folate**

Mnemonic	<b>FOL</b>
Specimen	<b>Serum</b>
Collection Tube	<b>3.5 mL gold stoppered serum separator tube</b>
Special Instructions	<b>Folate is light sensitive, limit specimen exposure to light prior to testing.</b>
For Lab use only	<b>Allow to clot 30 to 60 minutes before centrifuging</b>

---

### **Free T3**

Mnemonic	<b>FT3</b>
Specimen	<b>Serum</b>
Collection Tube	<b>3.5 mL gold stoppered serum separator tube</b>
For Lab Use Only	<b>Allow to clot 30 to 60 minutes before centrifuging</b>

---

## Free T4

Mnemonic	FT4
Specimen	Serum
Collection Tube	3.5 mL gold stoppered serum separator tube
For Lab use only	Allow to clot <b>30 to 60 minutes before centrifuging</b>

---

## Follicle-Stimulating Hormone

Mnemonic	FSH
Specimen	Serum
Collection Tube	3.5 mL gold stoppered serum separator tube
For Lab use only	Allow to clot <b>30 to 60 minutes before centrifuging</b>

---

## Gamma-Glutamyl Transferase

Mnemonic	GGT
Specimen	Plasma
Collection Tube	3 mL lithium heparin gel separator tube (light green)

---

## Gentamicin Post

Mnemonic	GENTPOST
Specimen	Serum
Collection Tube	4 ml no additive (red), do not use gel separator tubes
Special Instructions	Collect sample 30 minutes after dosage, do not use gel separators
For Lab use Only	Allow to clot for 1-hour, separate serum from cells within 2 hours of collection.

---

### **Gentamicin Pre**

Mnemonic	<b>GENTPRE</b>
Specimen	<b>Serum</b>
Collection Tube	<b>4 ml no additive (red), do not use gel separator tubes</b>
Special Instructions	<b>Collect sample 30 minutes prior to dosage, do not use gel separators</b>
For Lab use Only	<b>Allow to clot for 1-hour, separate serum from cells within 2 hours of collection.</b>

---

### **Gentamicin Random**

Mnemonic	<b>GENTR</b>
Specimen	<b>Serum</b>
Collection Tube	<b>4 mL no additive (red), do not use gel separator tubes</b>
Special Instructions	<b>Do not use gel separator tubes</b>
For Lab use Only	<b>Allow to clot for 1-hour, separate serum from cells within 2 hours of collection.</b>

---

### **Glucose AC**

Mnemonic	<b>GLUAC</b>
Specimen	<b>Plasma</b>
Collection Tube	<b>3 mL lithium heparin gel separator tubes (light green)</b>
Special Instructions	<b>Fasting 8 hours</b>

---

### **Glucose Loading Dose (50gm Oral Drink) - Gestational**

Mnemonic	<b>GTTLLOAD</b>
Specimen	<b>Plasma</b>
Collection Tube	<b>3 mL lithium heparin gel separator tubes (light green)</b>
For Lab use only	<b>Collect a blood sample one hour after the 50-gram glucose drink is finished. No fasting required.</b>

---

### **Glucose Monitor**

Mnemonic	<b>GLUM</b>
Specimen	<b>Finger prick</b>
Collection Tube	<b>N/A</b>
Special Instructions	<b>Nurse to draw</b>

---

### **Glucose PC**

Mnemonic	<b>GLUPC</b>
Specimen	<b>Plasma</b>
Collection Tube	<b>3 mL lithium heparin gel separator tubes (light green)</b>
Special Instructions	<b>Collect 2 hours after last meal. See specific dietary instructions.</b>

---

### **Glucose Random**

Mnemonic	<b>GLUR</b>
Specimen	<b>Plasma</b>
Collection Tube	<b>3 mL lithium heparin gel separator tubes (light green)</b>
For Lab use only	<b>Must be spun within 2 hours of collection</b>

---

### **Glucose Tolerance Test (75gm Oral Dose)**

Mnemonic	<b>GTT</b>
Specimen	<b>Plasma</b>
Collection Tube	<b>3 mL lithium heparin gel separator tubes (light green)</b>
For lab use only	<b>Collect a fasting glucose AC prior to administrating the drink. Collect a blood sample two hours after the 75-gram glucose drink is finished. 8 hours fast required.</b>

---

### **Glucose Tolerance Test (75gm Oral Drink) – Gestational**

Mnemonic	<b>GTTG</b>
Specimen	<b>Plasma</b>
Collection Tube	<b>3 mL lithium heparin gel separator tubes (light green)</b>
For Lab use only	<b>Collect blood samples one hour and two hours after the 75 grams glucose drink is finished. 8 hours fast required.</b>

---

### **HCG Quantitative**

Mnemonic	<b>HCGSQ</b>
Specimen	<b>Plasma</b>
Collection Tube	<b>3 mL lithium heparin gel separator tubes (light green)</b>

---

### **HDL Cholesterol**

Mnemonic	<b>HDL</b>
	<b>Order LIPID if LDL, CHOL, and TRIG ordered as well</b>
Specimen	<b>Plasma</b>
Collection Tube	<b>3 mL lithium heparin gel separator tubes (light green)</b>
For Lab use only	<b>Must be spun within 2 hours of collection</b>

---

### **H.Pylori Antigen**

Mnemonic	<b>STHPAG</b>
Specimen	<b>Stool</b>
Collection Tube	<b>Sterile container</b>
Special Instructions	<b>If sent from another site, keep frozen.</b>

---

### **Hemoglobin A1C**

Mnemonic	<b>A1C</b>
Specimen	<b>Whole Blood</b>
Collection Tube	<b>3 or 4-ml lavender (EDTA)</b>

---

### Hepatitis B Surface Antibody

Mnemonic	HEPBSAB
Specimen	Serum
Collection Tube	<b>5.0 ml gold stoppered serum separator tube</b>
For Lab use only	<b>Allow to clot 30 to 60 minutes before centrifuging.</b> Test samples as soon as possible after collecting.

---

### Hepatitis B Surface Antigen

Mnemonic	HEPBSAG
Specimen	Serum
Collection Tube	<b>5.0 ml gold stoppered serum separator tube</b>
For lab use only	<b>Allow to clot 30 to 60 minutes before centrifuging.</b> Test samples as soon as possible after collecting.

---

### Hepatitis C Antibody

Mnemonic	HEPC
Specimen	Serum
Collection Tube	<b>5.0 ml gold stoppered serum separator tube</b>
For Lab use only	<b>Allow to clot 30 to 60 minutes before centrifuging.</b> Test samples as soon as possible after collecting.

---

### HIV AG/AB Combo

Mnemonic	HIVAGAB
Specimen	Serum
Collection Tube	<b>5.0 ml gold stoppered serum separator tube</b>
Special Instructions	<b>Allow to clot 30 to 60 minutes before centrifuging.</b> Test samples as soon as possible after collecting.

---

## **Ionized Calcium**

Mnemonic	<b>CAION</b>
Specimen	<b>Plasma-PST</b>
Collection Tube	<b>3 mL Lithium Heparin plasma separator tube. (Light green tube)</b>
Stability	<b>Place on ice immediately after collection.</b>
Centrifuge	<b>Must be centrifuged within 2 hours of collection.</b>
For Lab Use Only	<b>After centrifugation samples should remain capped and kept cold prior to analysis</b>

---

## **Iron**

Mnemonic	<b>IRON</b>
Specimen	<b>Serum or Plasma</b>
Collection Tube	<b>3 mL lithium heparin (light green), 4 mL no-additive (red)</b>
For Lab Use Only	<b>Allow to clot <b>30 to 60 minutes before centrifuging; red 1 hour</b>, must be spun within 2 hours of collection, separate plasma/serum from cells within 2 hours of collection.</b>

---

## **Lactate**

Mnemonic	<b>LACW</b>
Specimen	<b>Whole Blood</b>
Collection Tube	<b>4 mL dark green (Lithium heparin)</b>
Special Instructions	<b>Transport at room temperature</b>
Stability	<b>Must be tested within 30 minutes of collection.</b>
For Lab Use Only	<b>Do not spin</b>

---

## **Lactate Dehydrogenase**

Mnemonic	<b>LDH</b>
Specimen	<b>Plasma</b>
Collection Tube	<b>3 mL lithium heparin gel separator tubes (light green)</b>
Special Instructions	<b>Must have clinical note to be tested</b>
For Lab Use Only	<b>Must be spun within 2 hours of collection.</b>

---

### **LDL Cholesterol, calculated**

Mnemonic	<b>LDL</b>
	<b>Order LIPID if HDL, CHOL, and TRIG ordered as well</b>
Specimen	<b>Plasma</b>
Collection Tube	<b>3 mL lithium heparin gel separator tubes (light green)</b>
For Lab Use Only	<b>Must be spun within 2 hours of collection.</b>

---

### **Lipase**

Mnemonic	<b>LIP</b>
Specimen	<b>Plasma</b>
Collection Tube	<b>3 mL lithium heparin gel separator tubes (light green)</b>
For Lab use only	<b>Must be spun within 2 hours of collection.</b>

---

### **Lithium**

Mnemonic	<b>Li</b>
Specimen	<b>Serum</b>
Collection Tube	<b>4 ml red (no anticoagulant) or sodium heparin (Do not use gel separators)</b>
For Lab use only	<b>Must be spun within 2 hours of collection.</b>
Special Instructions	<b>Do not use tubes containing Lithium Heparin</b>

---

### **Luteinizing Hormone**

Mnemonic	<b>LH</b>
Specimen	<b>Serum</b>
Collection Tube	<b>3.5 ml gold stoppered serum separator tube</b>
For Lab use only	<b>Allow to clot for 1 hour.</b>

---

## **Magnesium**

Mnemonic	<b>MG</b>
Specimen	<b>Plasma</b>
Collection Tube	<b>3 mL lithium heparin gel separator tubes (light green)</b>
For Lab use only	<b>Must be spun within 2 hours of collection.</b>

---

## **Magnesium (Urine)**

Mnemonic	<b>UMGR</b>
Specimen	<b>Urine</b>
Collection Tube	<b>Sterile urine container</b>

---

## **Malaria Smear**

Mnemonic	<b>MAL</b>
Specimen	<b>Whole Blood</b>
Collection Tube	<b>4 ml lavender (EDTA)</b>
Special Instructions	<b>Specimen should be drawn when patient's temperature is elevated</b>
For Lab use only	<b>Must be received at regional site within 4 hours of collection</b>

---

## **Microalbumin (Screen)**

Mnemonic	<b>U ACR</b>
Specimen	<b>Urine</b>
Collection Tube	<b>Urine</b>

---

## **Occult Blood**

Mnemonic	<b>STOB1, STOB2, STOB3</b>
Specimen	<b>Stool</b>
Collection Tube	<b>Hemoccult stool collection card</b>
Special Instructions	<b>Hemoccult occult blood test is not to be used with gastric specimens. Collection instructions can be provided.</b>

---

---

### **Osmolality – Plasma/Serum**

Mnemonic	<b>OSMO</b>
Specimen	<b>Plasma or Serum</b>
Collection Tube	<b>3 mL lithium heparin (light green), 3.5 ml gold stoppered serum separator or 4 mL no additive (red)</b>
For Lab use only	<b>Allow to clot 30 to 60 minutes before centrifuging; red 1 hour</b> <b>Do not uncap specimen</b>

---

### **Osmolality - Urine**

Mnemonic	<b>UOSMO</b>
Specimen	<b>Urine</b>
Collection Tube	<b>Sterile urine container, random urine or 24-hour collection non preservative</b>
For Lab use only	<b>Do not uncap specimen</b>

---

### **Peripheral Blood Morphology**

Mnemonic	<b>PBM</b>
Specimen	<b>Whole Blood</b>
Collection Tube	<b>4 mL EDTA (mauve)</b>
Special Instructions	<b>Lab adds a PBM to any concerning CBC</b>

---

### **Phosphorous**

Mnemonic	<b>PHOS</b>
Specimen	<b>Plasma</b>
Collection Tube	<b>3 mL lithium heparin gel separator tubes (light green)</b>
For Lab use only	<b>Must be spun within 2 hours of collections</b>

---

### **POC Glucose**

Mnemonic	<b>POC Glucose</b>
Specimen	<b>Whole blood</b>
Collection Tube	<b>N/A</b>
Special Instructions	<b>Wipe away first drop of blood with gauze.</b>

---

### Potassium (Urine)

Mnemonic	UKR
Specimen	Urine
Collection Tube	Sterile urine container

---

### Pre-Albumin

Mnemonic	PREALB
Specimen	Plasma
Collection Tube	3 mL lithium heparin gel separator tubes (light green)
For Lab use only	Must be spun within 2 hours of collection

---

### Pregnancy Test (Urine)

Mnemonic	HCG
Specimen	Urine
Collection Tube	Urine
Special Instructions	Preferred sample is first morning urine, no preservatives.

---

### Prolactin

Mnemonic	PROL
Specimen	Serum
Collection Tube	3.5 ml gold stoppered serum separator tube
For Lab use only	Allow to clot for 1 hour

---

### Prostate-Specific Antigen

Mnemonic	PSA
Specimen	Serum
Collection Tube	3.5 ml gold stoppered serum separator tube
For Lab Use Only	Allow to clot <b>30 to 60 minutes before centrifuging</b> , and centrifuge within 4 hours of collection.

---

### **Protein Creatinine Ratio**

Mnemonic	<b>U PCR</b>
Specimen	<b>Urine</b>
Collection Tube	<b>Sterile urine container</b>

---

### **PT/INR (PROTHROMBIN TIME)**

Mnemonic	<b>PTINR</b>
Specimen	<b>Plasma</b>
Collection Tube	<b>2.7 ml blue (3.2% sodium citrate)</b>
Special Instructions	<b>Tube must be filled to the line. Do not refrigerate</b>

---

### **Random Protein (Urine)**

Mnemonic	<b>UTPR</b>
Specimen	<b>Urine</b>
Collection Tube	<b>Sterile urine container</b>
Stability	<b>Transport and store refrigerated upon arrival to the laboratory</b>

---

### **Rapid Covid-19**

Mnemonic	<b>COVST</b>
Specimen	<b>Nasopharyngeal Specimen</b>
Collection Tube	<b>UTM Swab</b>
Special Instructions	<b>Floor must notify lab to perform swab as a Rapid Covid-19 (Can be ordered by lab staff only)</b>

---

### **Reticulocyte Count**

Mnemonic	<b>RETIC</b>
Specimen	<b>Whole Blood</b>
Collection Tube	<b>3 or 4ml mauve (EDTA)</b>

---

### Rheumatoid Factor

Mnemonic	RA
Specimen	Serum
Collection Tube	4 ml red or 3.5 ml gold stoppered serum separator tube
For Lab use only	Allow to clot <b>30 to 60 minutes before centrifuging; red 1 hour</b>

---

### Rubella IgG Antibody

Mnemonic	RUB
Specimen	Serum
Collection Tube	5.0 ml gold stoppered serum separator tube
For Lab use only	Allow to clot <b>30 to 60 minutes before centrifuging.</b> Test samples as soon as possible after collecting.

---

### Salicylate

Mnemonic	SAL
Specimen	Serum or plasma
Collection Tube	4 ml green (sodium heparin) or 4 ml red (no anticoagulant)

---

### Semen Analysis

Mnemonic	SA
Specimen	Semen
Collection Tube	Sterile container
Special Instructions	Delivered to laboratory within 30 minutes of collection and maintain at 37°C.
Stability	30 minutes

---

### **Semen Analysis Post Vasectomy**

Mnemonic	SAPV
Specimen	Semen
Collection Tube	Sterile container
Special Instructions	<b>Delivered to laboratory within 30 minutes of collection and maintain at 37°C.</b>
Stability	<b>30 minutes</b>

---

### **Sodium (Urine)**

Mnemonic	UNAR
Specimen	Urine
Collection Tube	Sterile urine container

---

### **Syphilis IgG Antibody**

Mnemonic	SYPHI
Specimen	Serum
Collection Tube	5.0 ml gold stoppered serum separator tube
For lab Use Only	<b>Allow to clot 30 to 60 minutes before centrifuging</b>

---

### **Total Iron Binding Capacity & % Saturation**

Mnemonic	TIBC
Specimen	Serum
Collection Tube	3.5 ml gold stoppered serum separator tube or 4 ml red (no anticoagulant)
For Lab use only	<b>Allow to clot 30 to 60 minutes before centrifuging, and must be spun within 2 hours of collection</b>

---

### **Total Carbon Dioxide**

Mnemonic	CO2T
Specimen	Plasma
Collection Tube	3 mL lithium heparin gel separator tubes (light green)
For Lab use only	<b>Do not uncap specimens prior to testing</b>

---

### Total Protein

Mnemonic	TP
Specimen	Plasma
Collection Tube	3 mL lithium heparin gel separator tubes (light green)

---

### Triglycerides Level

Mnemonic	TRIG
	order LIPID if CHOL, LDL, and HDL are ordered as well
Specimen	Plasma
Collection Tube	3 mL lithium heparin gel separator tubes (light green)

---

### Troponin I - High Sensitivity

Mnemonic	TROPIHS
Specimen	Plasma
Collection Tube	3 mL lithium heparin gel separator tubes (light green)
For Lab use only	Must be spun within 2 hours of collection

---

### Thyroid Stimulating Hormone

Mnemonic	TSH
Specimen	Serum
Collection Tube	3.5 ml gold stoppered serum separator tube
For Lab use only	Allow to clot <b>30 to 60 minutes before centrifuging</b>

---

### Urea (BUN)

Mnemonic	UREA
Specimen	Plasma
Collection Tube	3 mL lithium heparin gel separator tubes (light green)

---

### Urea (Urine)

Mnemonic	UUREAR
Specimen	Urine
Collection Tube	Sterile urine container

---

### Uric Acid

Mnemonic	URIC
Specimen	Plasma
Collection Tube	3 mL lithium heparin gel separator tubes (light green)

---

### Uric Acid Post Rasburicase

Mnemonic	URICRASB
Specimen	Plasma
Collection Tube	3ml lithium heparin gel separator tube (light green)
Lab only	Centrifuge within 2 hours of collection
Special Instructions	Collected on ICE and MUST be run within 2 hours of collection

---

### Uric Acid (Urine)

Mnemonic	UURICR
Specimen	Urine
Collection Tube	Sterile urine container

---

### Urinalysis

Mnemonic	UA
Specimen	Urine
Collection Tube	Sterile urine container >3 mL
Special Instructions	Preferred sample is first morning urine, no preservatives. Store and transport at room temperature.

---

### **Urine Drug Screen**

Mnemonic	<b>UDR</b>
Specimen	<b>Random Urine</b>
Collection Tube	<b>Sterile urine container &gt;10 mL</b>
For Lab Use Only	<b>Cloudy samples may be spun. Samples stored in freezer must be thawed and centrifuged prior to testing.</b>

---

### **Vancomycin Random**

Mnemonic	<b>VANR</b>
Specimen	<b>Plasma or Serum</b>
Collection Tube	<b>4 mL Sodium or 4 ml Lithium heparin (dark green) or 4 mL no additive (red).</b>
Special Instructions	<b>Fill in the date and time of last dose. Do not use gel separators.</b>
Lab Use Only	<b>Separate plasma/serum from cells within 2 hours of collection.</b>

---

### **Vancomycin Trough Level**

Mnemonic	<b>VANPRE</b>
Specimen	<b>Plasma or Serum</b>
Collection Tube	<b>4 mL Sodium or 4 ml Lithium heparin (dark green) or 4 mL no additive (red).</b>
Special Instructions	<b>Fill in the date and time of last dose. Do not use gel separators.</b>
	<b>Sodium heparin is recommended for collection when patients are receiving anticoagulants.</b>
Lab Use Only	<b>Separate plasma/serum from cells within 2 hours of collection.</b>

---

### **Valproic Acid (Depakene) Level**

Mnemonic	<b>VALP</b>
Specimen	<b>Serum</b>
Collection Tube	<b>4 ml red (no anticoagulant) or sodium heparin. Do not use gel separators</b>
Special Instructions	<b>Last dose needs to be noted in Meditech with date and time</b>
Lab Use Only	<b>Separate plasma/serum from cells within 2 hours of collection.</b>

---

### **Venous Blood Gas (Standard and Extended)**

Mnemonic	<b>VBG (Standard) or VBGEX (Extended)</b>
Specimen	<b>Whole Blood</b>
Collection Tube	<b>4 ml green (lithium heparin)</b>
Special Instructions	<b>Transport at room temperature.</b>
Stability	<b>Optimal analysis is within 30 minutes of collection, to a maximum of 60 minutes</b>
Lab Use Only	<b>Do not spin</b>

### **Venous Cord Blood Gas**

Mnemonic	<b>VCOBG</b>
Specimen	<b>Cord Blood</b>
Collection Tube	<b>Syringe</b>
Special Instructions	<b>Transport at room temperature</b>
Stability	<b>Optimal analysis is within 30 minutes of collection, to a maximum of 60 minutes. Please use clot catcher when running.</b>

### **Vitamin B12**

Mnemonic	<b>B12</b>
Specimen	<b>Serum</b>
Collection Tube	<b>3.5 ml gold stoppered serum separator tube</b>
For Lab use only	<b>Allow to clot <span style="background-color: yellow;">30 to 60 minutes before centrifuging</span></b>

## TRANSFUSION MEDICINE TEST CATALOGUE

### **Information for collection of Transfusion Medicine specimens:**

Accurate patient identification is critical. Follow Nova Scotia Health policy on Patient Identification located on the NSH intranet OP3-CL-SR-025. Follow Transfusion Medicine collection criteria located in the Venipuncture for blood Specimen Collection NSH policy CL-BP-040.

All Inpatients and ER patients must be wearing an armband before they are collected.

**If markers PT2PINK or PT4PINK are present on large Meditech label, ensure additional tubes are collected.**

Information required on requisition and specimen labels:

- i) Full patient name (First and Last Name)
- ii) Patient date of birth and patient Health Card number (HCN)

iii) Transfusion Medicine Labelling Requirements:

- **TM Requisition (Large Label):**
  - ✓ Collector's Meditech ID or Independent Phlebotomy code
  - ✓ Collector's full signature
  - ✓ Date and Time of Collection
  - ✓ Full legible signature of witness. **Do not use initials for the first name.**

- **All specimen tube(s):**
  - ✓ Collector's Meditech ID
  - ✓ Collector's initials
  - ✓ Date and Time of Collection
  - ✓ Witness initials

iv) See poster below for an example



**NORTHERN ZONE PATHOLOGY AND LABORATORY MEDICINE  
COLCHESTER EAST HANTS HEALTH CENTRE  
LABORATORY TEST CATALOGUE**



Northern Zone

# COLLECTING AN ABO & SCREEN



FYI: EDTA Tubes are 6 mL with a Pink Top

## 1. PRIOR TO COLLECTION

Ensure there is an **order and consent to collect specimen**.

Obtain the correct specimen labels for your patient.

## 2. AT THE BEDSIDE: IN THE PRESENCE OF THE PATIENT

Collector and Witness verify that information on labels exactly matches the patient's ID armband.

- Spelling of all names
- Date of Birth
- Health Card Number (LIS Downtime)

Collect EDTA tube and any other necessary bloodwork from the patient. Fill the tube. If having difficulty, consult Transfusion Medicine.

## 3. SPECIMEN LABELS

### Large Specimen Label:

The Meditech  
Mnemonic AND full  
signature is required  
for the Collector

**Witness** must sign full  
name on large label



Collector must ensure date and time of collection is on both specimen labels

### Small Specimen Label:

Collector initials and writes  
Meditech Mnemonic on small  
label

**Witness** must  
initial small label

### IN THE PRESENCE OF THE PATIENT:

Place the small  
label lengthwise  
on tube



So the bar code  
can be scanned

## 4. SEND TO TRANSFUSION MEDICINE

### FOLLOW THE STEPS

Send labels with specimen(s) to the lab in the same specimen collection bag



### DO NOT USE GEL PENS, PENCILS OR MARKERS



Samples that do not conform to this process will be cancelled and a proper recollection required. It is imperative to patient safety that these steps be performed and documented exactly as described. No exceptions are made.

Refer to Policies CL-SR-025 Client Identification  
or CL-BP-040 Venipuncture for Blood Specimen Collection - Policy and Procedure

Contact Transfusion Medicine Services for assistance



PPR-G-TM-0006 Effective date 2021/04/01  
Developed by the NSPBCT  
For an online version visit <http://www.cdha.nshealth.ca/nova-scotia-provincial-blood-coordinating-program-7>

### **Antibody Screen**

Mnemonic	<b>ABS</b>
Specimen	<b>Plasma</b>
Collection Tube	<b>6 mL EDTA (pink)</b>
Special Instructions	<b>See information for collection of Transfusion Medicine specimens on pages 39-40.</b>

---

### **Crossmatch of Red Cell(s)**

Mnemonic	<b>GRRH &amp; ABS &amp; RC(s)</b>
Specimen	<b>Plasma</b>
Collection Tube	<b>6 mL EDTA (pink)</b>
Special Instructions	<b>See information for collection of Transfusion Medicine specimens on pages 39-40.</b>

---

### **Blood Bank QE2**

Mnemonic	<b>BBQE2</b>
Specimen	<b>Plasma</b>
Collection Tube	<b>6 mL EDTA (pink)</b>
Special Instructions	<b>Patient presents with a Pre-op req from QEII with BBQE2 stamped on it. Collector to follow collection protocol for Transfusion Medicine specimens (pages 39-40) and complete the QEII requisition with collector and witness required information. Tube is to be directly referred out to the QEII.</b>

---

### **Blood Bank Hold**

Mnemonic	<b>BBHOLD</b>
Specimen	<b>Plasma</b>
Collection Tube	<b>6 mL EDTA (pink)</b>
Special Instructions	<b>See information for collection of Transfusion Medicine specimens on pages 39-40.</b>

---

### **Blood Group/Type**

Mnemonic	<b>GRRH</b>
Specimen	<b>Plasma</b>
Collection Tube	<b>6 mL EDTA (pink)</b>
Special Instructions	<b>See information for collection of Transfusion Medicine specimens on pages 39-40.</b>

---

### **Indirect Antiglobulin Test**

Mnemonic	<b>IDAT</b>
Specimen	<b>Whole Blood</b>
Collection Tube	<b>6 mL EDTA (pink)</b>
Special Instructions	<b>See information for collection of Transfusion Medicine specimens on pages 39-40.</b>

---

### **Direct Antiglobulin Test (Coombs)**

Mnemonic	<b>DAT</b>
Specimen	<b>Whole Blood</b>
Collection Tube	<b>6 mL EDTA (pink) or 4 mL EDTA (lavender)</b> <b>EDTA (lavender) microtainer or a Red (non-additive) microtainer-refer to Appendix G: Maximum Total Pediatric Blood Collection Volume in the Venipuncture for Blood Specimen Collection policy and Procedure (CL-PB-040) prior to collecting blood on a Neonate.</b>
Special Instructions	<b>See information for collection of Transfusion Medicine specimens on pages 39-40.</b>

---

### **Cord DAT**

Mnemonic	<b>CORD DAT</b>
Specimen	<b>Whole Blood</b>
Collection Tube	<b>6 mL EDTA (pink) or 4 mL EDTA (lavender) or 10 mL serum (red)</b>

---

### **Cord GRRH**

Mnemonic	<b>CORD GRRH</b>
Specimen	<b>Whole Blood</b>
Collection Tube	<b>6 mL EDTA (pink) or 4 mL EDTA (lavender) or 10 mL serum (red)</b>

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### **Cord HOLD**

Mnemonic	<b>CORD HOLD</b>
Specimen	<b>Whole Blood</b>
Collection Tube	<b>6 mL EDTA (pink) or 4 mL EDTA (lavender) or 10 mL serum (red)</b>

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### **Kleihauer**

Mnemonic	<b>KLQ</b>
Specimen	<b>Whole Blood</b>
Collection Tube	<b>6 mL EDTA (pink) or 4 mL EDTA (lavender)</b>
Special Instructions	<b>Must be drawn as soon as possible after delivery or for a suspected hemorrhage, CBC sample is acceptable, provided it was collected following delivery or suspected hemorrhage. This is not a STAT test, WinRho is required to be given within 72 hours of the event.</b>

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### **Transfusion Reaction Investigation**

Mnemonic	<b>TRX</b>
Specimen	<b>Plasma or Serum</b>
Collection Tube	<b>6 mL EDTA pink top (EDTA) and 10mL serum (red)</b>
Special Instructions	<b>See information for collection of Transfusion Medicine specimens on pages 39-40.</b>

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## **Neonatal GRRH**

Mnemonic	<b>NEO-GRRH</b>
Specimen	<b>Whole Blood</b>
Collection Tube	<b>EDTA (lavender) microtainer or a Red (non-additive) microtainer-refer to Appendix G: Maximum Total Pediatric Blood Collection Volume in the Venipuncture for Blood Specimen Collection policy and Procedure (CL-PB-040) prior to collecting blood on a Neonate.</b>

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## MICROBIOLOGY TEST CATALOGUE

Refer to Provincial Microbiology User's Manual PPHLN - M0008-03 for instructions and tests not found in this manual. [provincial-microbiology-users-manual.pdf](#)

### SPECIMEN COLLECTION AND TRANSPORT INTRODUCTION

This guide to specimen collection and transport provides information on the appropriate collection and handling of optimal specimens to ensure the best chance of detection of organisms causing infection. It is hoped this manual will be able to provide advice to give guidance in most circumstances. If a laboratory user has a question that remains unanswered after consulting the manual, a laboratory staff member or Microbiologist should be contacted.

Specimens often contain potentially infectious micro-organisms: consequently, it is essential that routine precautions be followed. All specimens should be considered hazardous, not only for the micro-organisms that are suspected of being present, but also for other infectious agents that are present at low prevalence in the population. As carriage of these infectious agents is often not known either to the patient or to the physician or health care worker, the best defense against infection is to assume that the specimens are infectious and to take precautions accordingly.

### GENERAL GUIDELINES

- Specimens are collected to provide information about organisms that are causing infection. While these organisms can be part of the normal flora, it is important to ensure that normal flora is excluded from the specimen as much as possible.
- Pathogens may be a small component of the organisms contained within a specimen collected from a site that possesses a normal flora. Use of transport medium, and refrigeration when transportation to the laboratory is required can be important to preserve the viability of organisms to allow their detection.
- When infection is caused by a complex flora, cultures may only detect a subset of the organisms present.
- Extensive workup of isolates in these circumstances is often not helpful as results are delayed and do not reflect the range of organisms present. These specimens are reported reflecting the type of flora present.
- Treatment is best chosen empirically.
- Specimens should be collected before starting antimicrobial agents wherever possible, without compromising care.
- When specimens are collected, it is important that the external surface of the specimen container and the requisition are not contaminated. Leaking specimens or specimens with evidence of external contamination will usually result in rejection of the specimen by the laboratory.
- As soon as the specimen is collected and the container appropriately labelled, the specimen container should be placed in a plastic specimen bag. The requisition should be completed and placed in the side pouch separate from the specimen container. **The requisition should not be placed in the same part of the bag as the specimen.**

**NOTE:**

- Use appropriate specimen collection material. Sterile collection material and aseptic technique must be used for collection of specimens using invasive procedures.
- For specimens from non-sterile sites, attempt to collect the specimen with as little contamination from the surrounding normal flora as possible. PPHLN: Provincial Microbiology User's Manual - 2017

**PPHLN-M0008-029**

- If a specimen is to be collected through intact skin, the skin should be disinfected thoroughly, allowing several minutes for the disinfectant to have effect. Examples of skin disinfectants include 70% alcohol, iodine solution, povidone-iodine, chlorhexidine, etc. If tincture of iodine is used, remove with 70% ethanol after procedure to prevent burning.
- An adequate amount of specimen should be collected. As a rule, more is better than less. For example, a tube or urine container with 10 ml of pus is a better specimen than a swab. Small amounts of specimen are subject to drying, becoming aerobic, and other forms of deterioration, whereas larger volumes minimize the risk of false negative results.

**SPECIMEN IDENTIFICATION AND INFORMATION**

- The specimen should be collected in the standard containers available through hospital stores. These containers are selected to have low failure rates and may be selected to be compatible with instruments.
- Both the specimen container and the requisition must be labelled with:
  - Full legal name
  - Date of Birth
  - Health Card Number (Government issued number are accepted)
  - Date and time of collection
- The specimen source should be clearly and completely indicated to ensure that the appropriate processing takes place. For example, a "swab of the hip" taken in the OR from the joint would be processed/interpreted quite differently from a superficial swab of a hip ulcer.
- When specific diagnoses are being considered, they may have a bearing on the processing of the specimen; these diagnoses should be indicated in the clinical detail section on the requisition to ensure that the specific questions can be answered. This is particularly important if the suspect organism is unusual or requires extraordinary processing.
- Pertinent historical data (e.g. travel, association with a known outbreak, immunosuppression, or underlying disease) should be indicated in the clinical detail section of the requisition. For example, travel history is important in detection of species of organism that are not locally endemic.

**SPECIMEN TRANSPORT – GENERAL GUIDELINES**

- Specimens should be transported to the laboratory as quickly as possible.
- Specimens that cannot be transported rapidly should be refrigerated, with the following exceptions:
  - Blood cultures should be held at room temperature.
  - CSF cultures should be held at room temperature (meningococci are susceptible to cold). PPHLN: Provincial Microbiology User's Manual
  - Skin scrapings should be kept at room temperature as dermatophytes are cold sensitive.

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- Stool cultures for bacteriology should be mixed with enteric transport medium (Cary-Blair Enteric Transport medium) and kept refrigerated.
- Stool for parasitology should be placed in a sterile container without any preservative and kept refrigerated. If patient has travelled out of country stool should be mixed with parasite transport medium (SAF) and kept at room temperature.
- Stool for virology or cytotoxicity (C.Diff) should be placed in a sterile container without any preservative. Store specimen refrigerated prior to transport on ice pack.
- Swabs should be transported to the laboratory in Amies (eSwab) Transport Medium.
- For anaerobic culture, as much fluid or pus as possible (up to 50ml) should be collected and sent without delay in a dry sterile container. (Swabs with Amies (eSwab) Transport Medium is also acceptable)

**NOTE:**

- Do not send specimens in syringes for culture. There are difficulties with maintenance of anaerobic conditions in plastic syringes. Recapping of needles is not recommended because of the risk of needle stick injury.
  - If the volume of the specimen is very low, non-bacteriostatic saline (preservative free) may be drawn up and used to flush the syringe into a sterile container.
- 

### **Abscess Culture**

Mnemonic	<b>ABSC</b>
Specimen	<b>Swab</b>
Collection Tube	<b>Amies (eSwab) Swab,</b>
Special Instructions	<b>Specify Site, this includes dental abscess and Bartholin cyst specimens.</b>
Stability	<b>72 hours 2-8°C</b>

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### **AFB (TB) Culture**

Mnemonic	<b>AFBC</b>
Specimen	<b>Sputum or Bronch Wash</b>
Collection Tube	<b>sterile C/S container</b>
Special Instructions	<b>For blood culture for AFB see Blood Culture Mycobacteria/T</b>
Stability	<b>2-8°C</b>

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## Aspirate Culture

Mnemonic	ASPC
Specimen	
Collection Tube	<b>Sterile C/S Container</b>
Special Instructions	<b>Specify Site</b>
Stability	<b>48 hours at 2 to 8°C</b>

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## Body Fluid Culture

Mnemonic	<b>BFC (Gallbladder Fluid-order as MISC)</b>
Specimen	
Collection Tube	<b>Sterile C/S Container add heparin and indicate addition</b>
Special Instructions	<b>Includes gram stain</b>
Stability	<b>Send to lab ASAP at 2 to 8°C</b>
For Lab use only	<b>Gallbladder fluid is not STAT</b>

---

## Blood Culture Aerobic

Mnemonic	<b>BLDAER (Change Count to 1 in LIS if only one blood culture ordered, LIS defaults to 2)</b>
Specimen	<b>Add 5-10 ml of venous blood per adult bottle and 1-4 ml per pediatric bottle for pediatric patients. <u>Do Not</u> over fill culture bottles.</b>
Collection Tube	<b>Appropriate Blood Culture bottle.</b>
Special Instructions	<b>Discard first 1 mL of blood in a discard tube to avoid skin contamination of the blood culture. Change Count to 1 in LIS if only one blood culture ordered, LIS defaults to 2.</b>
Stability	<b>Deliver to lab ASAP at Room Temp</b>

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## Blood Culture (use if aerobic and anaerobic blood cultures requested by Physician)

Mnemonic	<b>BLDAER and BLDANA (Change Count to 1 in LIS if only one blood culture ordered, LIS defaults to 2)</b>
Specimen	<b>Add 5-10 ml of venous blood per adult bottle and 1-4 ml per pediatric bottle for pediatric patients. <u>Do Not</u> over fill culture bottles.</b>
Collection Tube	<b>Appropriate Blood Culture bottle.</b>
Special Instructions	<b>Discard first 1 mL of blood in a discard tube to avoid skin contamination of the blood culture.</b>
Stability	<b>Deliver to lab ASAP at Room Temp</b>

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## Blood Culture Mycobacteria/TB

Mnemonic	BLTB
Specimen	Add 3-5 ml of venous blood per adult bottle and 1-4 ml per pediatric bottle for pediatric patients. <u>Do Not</u> over fill culture bottles.
Collection Tube	Appropriate <u>Blood Culture</u> bottle must be obtained from QEII prior to collection.
Special Instructions	Discard first 1 mL of blood in a discard tube to avoid skin contamination of the blood culture.
Stability	Deliver to lab ASAP at Room Temp

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## Bone Culture (aerobic and anaerobic)

Mnemonic	BONC
Specimen	
Collection Tube	Sterile C/S Container
Special Instructions	Deliver to lab without delay at Room Temp
For Lab Use Only	Add Thio to cover specimen. Send by STAT run to Colchester at Room Temp

---

## Clostridium difficile (Stool) (C.diff)

Mnemonic	CDIF
Specimen	Stool, liquid (not formed)
Collection Tube	Sterile C/S Container
Stability	72 hours at 2-8°C

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## Chlamydia/GC

Mnemonic	CHLGPCR or UCHLGPCR
Specimen	Aptima Swab (female) Vaginal or Urine (male)
Collection Tube	Apitma swab (female) or Sterile C/S container (male)
Special Instructions	The preferred specimen for women remains a vaginal swab. Urine is the preferred specimen for male (first 20mL voided, patient must not have urinated in the past 2 hrs).
Stability	Aptima swab 3 days at 2-8°C

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## **COVID**

Special Instructions      See COVID in Lab section of this manual as test is ordered in the LAB Module in LIS.

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## **CSF Culture**

Mnemonic	<b>CSFC</b>
Specimen	<b>CSF</b>
Collection Tube	<b>CSF Collection Tube # 3</b>
Special Instructions	<b>Deliver to lab ASAP</b>
For Lab Use Only	<b>Send by STAT run to Colchester at Room Temp</b>

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## **CSF ME PANEL**

Mnemonic	<b>CSFPANEL</b>
Specimen	<b>CSF</b>
Collection Tube	<b>CSF Tube (Tube with most volume preferred sample)</b>
Special Instructions	<b>CSF PCR Approval Form required</b>

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## **Ear Culture**

Mnemonic	<b>EARC</b>
Specimen	<b>Swab</b>
Collection Tube	<b>Amies (eSwab) Swab</b>
Stability	<b>72 hours at 2-8°C</b>

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## **Eye Culture**

Mnemonic	<b>EYEC</b>
Specimen	<b>Swab</b>
Collection Tube	<b>Amies (eSwab) Swab</b>
Stability	<b>72 hours at 2-8°C</b>

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## **Fungal Culture Dermatophytes**

Mnemonic	<b>FUCD</b>
Specimen	<b>Scrapings</b>
Collection Tube	<b>Kit available from lab, dark paper.</b>
Special Instructions	<b>See Provincial Microbiology user's manual.</b>

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### Fungal Culture Systemic

Mnemonic	<b>FUCS</b>
Specimen	<b>Bronchial Wash</b>
Collection Tube	<b>Sterile C/S container</b>
Special Instructions	<b>Test performed at QEII</b>

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### Miscellaneous Aerobic Culture

Mnemonic	<b>MISC</b>
Specimen	<b>Swab</b>
Collection Tube	<b>Amies (eSwab) Swab</b>
Special Instructions	<b>Specify Site. Includes gram stain.</b>
Stability	<b>72 hours at 2-8°C</b>

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### Mouth Culture

Mnemonic	<b>MOUC</b>
Specimen	<b>Swab</b>
Collection Tube	<b>Amies (eSwab) Swab</b>
Stability	<b>72 hours at 2-8°C</b>

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### MRSA SCREEN

Mnemonic	<b>MRSA Specimen</b>
Collection Tube	<b>Amies (eSwab) Swab</b>
Special Instructions	<b>Order specimens "CONG" combo nares and groin</b>
Stability	<b>72 hours at 2-8°C</b>

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### Ova and Parasite Screen

Mnemonic	<b>OPSR</b>
Specimen	<b>Stool</b>
Collection Tube	<b>Sterile C/S container or SAF Fixative</b>
Special Instructions	<b>Test not indicated for in patients in hospital &gt;72hrs. Indicate if travel outside of country and test request will be changed to OPCT and sent to QEII for O&amp;P microscopy.</b>
Stability	<b>72 hours at 2-8°C</b>

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### **Pinworm Examination**

Mnemonic	<b>PINW</b>
Specimen	<b>Scotch tape (shiny) collection of perianal area, attached to a glass slide</b>
Stability	<b>24 hours at room temperature</b>

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### **Placenta Culture and TRUE swabs for stillborn**

Mnemonic	<b>MISC</b>
Specimen	<b>Placenta (Maternal and Fetal) TRUE (fetus throat, Fetus rectal, Fetus umbilical, Fetus ear)</b>
Collection Tube	<b>Amies (eSwab) swab</b>
Stability	<b>72 hours at 2-8°C</b>

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### **Sputum Culture**

Mnemonic	<b>SPUC</b>
Specimen	<b>C/S Container</b>
Collection Tube	<b>Sterile C/S container</b>
Special Instructions	<b>Indicate if expectorated, suction, induced or Bronchial wash specimen.</b>
Stability	<b>24 hours at 2-8°C</b>

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### **Stool Culture**

Mnemonic	<b>STOC</b>
Specimen	<b>Stool</b>
Collection Tube	<b>Enteric Transport Media</b>
Special Instructions	<b>Test not indicated for in patients in hospital &gt;72hrs.</b>
Stability	<b>24 hours at 2-8°C</b>

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### **Stool Viral Culture**

Mnemonic	<b>VIRC</b>
Specimen	<b>Stool</b>
Collection Tube	<b>Sterile C/S container</b>
Special Instructions	<b>Specify virus requested. Test will be performed at QEII.</b>
Stability	<b>24 hours at 2-8°C</b>

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### **Throat Culture**

Mnemonic	<b>THRC</b>
Specimen	<b>swab</b>
Collection Tube	<b>Amies (eSwab) swab</b>
Stability	<b>72 hours at 2-8°C</b>

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### **Tissue Culture**

Mnemonic	<b>TISC</b>
Specimen	<b>Tissue</b>
Collection Tube	<b>Sterile C/S container</b>
Special Instructions	<b>Specify Site. Includes gram stain. Deliver to lab ASAP.</b>
Stability	<b>Keep at room temperature and deliver to lab ASAP.</b>
For Lab Use Only	<b>Add THIO to cover specimen. Send by STAT run to Colchester at Room Temp</b>

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### **Trichomonas (Wet Prep Trichomonas)**

Mnemonic	<b>VAGS</b>
Specimen	<b>swab</b>
Collection Tube	<b>Amies (eSwab) swab</b>
Stability	<b>24 hours at 2-8°C</b>

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### **Umbilical Culture**

Mnemonic	<b>UMBC</b>
Specimen	<b>swab</b>
Collection Tube	<b>Amies (eSwab) swab</b>
Stability	<b>72 hours 2-8°C</b>

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### **Urine Culture**

Mnemonic	<b>URNC</b>
Specimen	<b>urine</b>
Collection Tube	<b>sterile C/S container</b>
Stability	<b>Refrigerate 2-8°C. Must be cultured within 24hs of collection.</b>
For Lab Use Only	<b>Urine C&amp;S Preservative tube for transport to Colchester within 48 hours at 2-8°. Low volume urines send in dry sterile container send ASAP at 2-8°C.</b>

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### **Vaginal Strep Group B Screen Culture**

Mnemonic	<b>VAGB</b>
Specimen	<b>vag/rectal</b>
Collection Tube	<b>Amies (eSwab) swab</b>
Stability	<b>72 hours 2-8°C</b>

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### **Vaginal Culture**

Mnemonic	<b>VAGC- do not order unless than 12 years old or requested by specialist or clinical indication for culture</b>
	<b>Order VAGC (Vaginitis culture) for patient 12 years and older-source is VAGP</b>
Specimen	<b>Vaginal</b>
Collection Tube	<b>Amies (eSwab) swab</b>
Stability	<b>72 hours at 2-8°C</b>

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### **Vaginal >50 years-older**

Mnemonic	<b>GRSA</b>
Specimen	<b>Vaginal</b>
Collection Tube	<b>Amies (eSwab) swab</b>
Stability	<b>72 hours at 2-8°C</b>

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### **Vaginitis Screen**

Mnemonic	<b>VAGS</b>
Specimen	<b>swab</b>
Collection Tube	<b>Amies (eSwab) swab</b>
Stability	<b>72 hours at 2-8°C</b>

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## **Viral Culture**

Mnemonic	<b>VIRC</b>
Specimen	<b>swab or stool</b>
Collection Tube	<b>COPAN UTM or Viral Transport Media for swab or sterile C/S container for stool</b>
Special Instructions	<b>Specify virus requested. Refrigeration is recommended once collected. Deliver to lab ASAP.</b>
Stability	<b>Refrigerate after collection and freeze if delay in sending to reference lab.</b>

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## **VRE SCREEN**

Mnemonic	<b>VRE</b>
Specimen	<b>Swab</b>
Collection Tube	<b>Amies (eSwab) Agar Swab for screen</b>
Special Instructions	<b>Rectal Swab</b>
Stability	<b>72 hours at 2-8°C</b>

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## **Wound Culture**

Mnemonic	<b>WOUC</b>
Specimen	<b>Swab</b>
Collection Tube	<b>Amies (eSwab) Agar Swab</b>
Special Instructions	<b>Specify Site. Includes gram stain.</b>
Stability	<b>72 hours at 2-8°C</b>

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**Revision History**

<b>Version</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Reason</b>	<b>Revised By</b>
1.1	2022-09-19	Tube change provincially for ionized calcium and a few minor updates.	Leanne Carter, QTS
2.0	2024-03-22	<p>Added Cortisol DST as it is now performed at CEHHC instead of being referred to QE2. Revised instructions for the Transfusion medicine; Current white requisition is being discontinued and the large Meditech label will serve as the spot for collector and witness signature.</p> <p>Removed 24-hour urine cortisol and 24-hour urine phosphorus testing as now referred to the QEII. Tobramycin testing now referred out as well.</p> <p>Updated sodium heparin tube to lithium heparin dark green tube for Vancomycin testing on the EXL.</p> <p>Removed Platelet function assay referred to Aberdeen as testing is no longer being performed at this site (analyzer removed from service).</p> <p>Updated Transfusion Medicine requirements. (Discontinued paper req) and placed TM collections into one section of the manual. Updated number of tubed required to be collected.</p>	Holly Mosher, Pre-Analytical TS  Alice Jones TM SR MLT  Leanne Carter, QTS
V2.1	2024-08-20	Update TM tubes: use 6 mL pink tubes, not 7mL. Cold Agglutinins Titer removed from Blood Transfusion section as it is now referred to the QE2. Updated micro section to correct stability times to match Job aid MB-J-09.	Leanne Carter, QTS

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V2.2	2024-11-21	Updated HIV AG/AB combo Mnemonic to HIVAG/AB. Added Urine Drug screening as well Anaplasma and Babesia. Add instructions for Lab for Valproic Acid, Vanco and Carbamazepine	Leanne Carter, QTS
V3.0	2025-08-08	Archived Mono Test Added Creatinine Clearance back to the catalogue Added eSwab to all micro specimens that used to state Amies swab Changed various immunoassay tube type to gold topped tubes Added EDTA tube types to DAT specimens; both microtainer and 4mL Updated required patient identifiers for Microbiology specimens Standardized the wording for Gold SST tubes and clotting times	Alice Jones TM SR MLT  Brandon McLellan, PA SR MLT
V4.0	2025-12-23  2026-01-28	Changed clotting time from 1 hour to 30 to 60 minutes for SST tubes Added CSF ME Panel to Test Catalogue Added Uric Acid Post Rasburicase to Catalogue Added shipping instructions for urinalysis	Brandon McLellan, PA SR MLT  Holly Mosher, PA SR MLT



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<b>Approver</b>	
Name: Holly Mosher	Signature: see paper master
Position: Pre-analytical Technical Specialist	Date: 2026-02-05
<b>Approver</b>	
Name: Melissa Hernandez	Signature: see paper master
Position: Northern Zone Lab Director	Date: 2026-02-06