

Specimen Collection Requirements for Neonates

1. Newborns with high hematocrits may require a larger sample volume of whole blood.
2. *If no TAT is indicated, tests are available on a stat and routine basis.
3. Order of draw for Microtainers: EDTA (Lavender), Lithium Heparin (Green), SST-Serum Separator Gel (Gold).
4. 1.0 mL Sodium Heparin (Green) vacutainer (BD 367671).
5. Invert tubes gently 8-10 times immediately after drawing blood.

TEST NAME	TAT*	CONTAINER TYPE	MIN SAMPLE VOLUME WHOLE BLOOD	COLLECTION INSTRUCTIONS
ABG- Arterial Blood Gases	15 mins	Heparin Syringe	0.3 mL	1. Mix well. 2. Send on ice
ACTH (Adrenocorticotrophic hormone) PLASMA	7 days	Lavender Microtainer	1 mL	1. Pre chill tubes 2. Mix gently after drawing 3. Send to lab on ice
ACYL-CARNITINES Request free and total carnitine also with this order	7-10 Working Days Performed on Wed and Fri	Green or Gold Microtainer	1.5 mL	1. On ice 2. Send to lab ASAP
ALBUMIN		Green or Gold Microtainer	0.4 mL	
ALDOSTERONE	10 days	Green or Gold Microtainer	2 tubes 0.5 mL	Indicate all drugs administered in last two weeks
ALP (Alkaline Phosphatase)		Green or Gold Microtainer	0.4 mL	
AFP (Alpha Fetoprotein)	SD Mon-Fri	Gold Microtainer	0.5 mL	
ALPHA 1 ANTI-TRYPsin	Varies	Green or Gold Microtainer	0.5 mL	

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TEST NAME	TAT*	CONTAINER TYPE	MIN SAMPLE VOLUME WHOLE BLOOD	COLLECTION INSTRUCTIONS
ALT (Alanine Aminotransferase)		Green or Gold Microtainer	0.4 mL	
AMIKACIN - Trough - Peak - Random	Mon- Fri	Green or Gold Microtainer	0.5 mL	Random Trough: 0-30 min Before next dose Peak: 30-60 min after IV completed
AMINO ACIDS SCREEN - Blood	10 days	Heparin syringe, Green or Gold Microtainer	0.4 mL	Send to lab immediately
AMINO ACIDS - BLOOD (Quantitative)	10 days	Heparin syringe, Green or Gold Microtainer	0.5 mL	Send to lab immediately
AMINO ACIDS - URINE Quantitative (Order urine screen unless diagnosis is known)	10 days	Sterile Urine container no preservative	2 mL	Keep sample cool For quantitation, provide tentative diagnosis
AMINO ACIDS - BLOOD (Quantitative)	10 days	Heparin syringe, Green or Gold Microtainer	0.5 mL	Send to lab immediately
AMINO ACIDS - CSF	Twice weekly	LAP kit. Sterile conical screw top tube.	0.5 mL	Bloody specimen inappropriate for analysis
AMMONIA -BLOOD	2 hours	Lavender Microtainer	0.4 mL	Send on ice immediately and Indicate time drawn
AMYLASE		Green or Gold Microtainer	0.4 mL	

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TEST NAME	TAT*	CONTAINER TYPE	MIN SAMPLE VOLUME WHOLE BLOOD	COLLECTION INSTRUCTIONS
ANDROSTENEDIONE	14 days	Gold Microtainer	1 mL	
Anti Cardiolipin	7 days	2 Gold Microtainers.	1 mL	
Anti-Xa (AXA)	2 hrs	BLUE COAG "MiniCollect" tube (3.2% sodium citrate)	0.9mL of blood to 0.1 mL 3.2% sodium citrate. 1 MiniCollect if AXA ordered only. 2 citrated "MiniCollect TUBES" if ordered with full Coag panel – PT/PTT, DD, and Fibrinogen	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Dose times: 06:00 and 18:00. Take blood 4 hours after medication is given. 2. Add exactly 0.9 mL blood to liquid in each tube, 3. Invert gently and thoroughly 4-6 times 4. Send to lab ASAP. 5. Indicate the type of heparin (Enoxaparin)
APT	2 DAYS	Sterile urine container	10 mL – GASTRIC ASPIRATE – STOOL – VOMITUS	Sample must be pink or red. Colometric reaction with brown end-point. Any red-brown or black sample is not acceptable.
AST (Aspartate Aminotransferase)		Green or Gold Microtainer	0.4 mL	
BETA HYDROXY BUTYRATE	7 DAYS	Gold Microtainer preferred Green Microtainer acceptable	0.5 mL Can be combined with Free Fatty Acids – 0.6 mL both	Send immediately on ice.

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TEST NAME	TAT*	CONTAINER TYPE	MIN SAMPLE VOLUME WHOLE BLOOD	COLLECTION INSTRUCTIONS
BILIRUBIN -TOTAL (Microbilirubin or MBR) - SERUM		Green or Gold Microtainer	0.4 mL	
BILIRUBIN DIRECT – (Bilirubin Conjugated)		Green or Gold Microtainer	0.4 mL	
BLOOD CULTURE For infants < 24 hrs old	Refer to SCI-5.7.15.2.14 (HL)	BACTEC PEDS PLUS BOTTLE -(Pink top and label)	BACTEC® PEDS Puls/F 1 - 3 mL of blood per bottle.	Do not refrigerate. Deliver A.S.A.P. to the lab.
BLOOD CULTURE For infants ≥ 24 hours old <i>Note: Weekdays, 2200 hours to 0500 hours AND Weekends and Holidays, 2000 hours to 0500 hours: Collect neonatal blood cultures in a BACTEC PEDS PLUS BOTTLE, NOT ISOLATOR TUBE.</i>	Refer to SCI-5.7.15.2.14 (HL) STAT	“Isolator 1.5 tube” (yellow top with pink label)	WAMPOLE ISOLATOR 1.5 1.5 mL of blood is optimum for culture	If M. furfur suspected, please indicate. Mix well. Do not refrigerate. Deliver to lab immediately.
BUN (UREA)		Green or Gold Microtainer	0.4 mL	
Capillary Blood Gases (CBG)		Heparin coated capillary	(0.14 mL) Or full cap tube	1. Mix well. 2. Insert metal mixing flea and cap ends. 3. Send immediately on ice
CALCIUM (Total)		Green or Gold Microtainer	0.4 mL	Can be ordered as Ca/Alb/Phos/Mg

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TEST NAME	TAT*	CONTAINER TYPE	MIN SAMPLE VOLUME WHOLE BLOOD	COLLECTION INSTRUCTIONS
CARBOXY HEMOGLOBIN (COHB) - BLOOD		Heparin Syringe	0.25 mL	Send on ice.
CARNITINE Free and total	7 Days	Gold Microtainer preferred Green acceptable can also be performed on urine.	0.5mL serum or plasma	Send on ice
CSF CELL COUNT	1 hr	CSF collection tube	0.05 mL	Send to lab ASAP. If delay anticipated, keep specimen at room temperature. If multiple tubes of CSF are collected, the first tube shall not be used for microbiological examination. Indicate the order collected on the tube. Send tube 3 for cell count.
CSF DIFFERENTIAL	2 hr	CSF collection tube	0.100 mL (cell count also performed)	See CSF Cell Count
CSF GLUCOSE	1 hr	CSF collection tube	0.4 mL (Glucose and Protein)	See CSF Cell Count Send tube 1 for glucose.
CSF PROTEIN	1 hr	CSF collection tube	0.4 mL (Glucose and Protein)	See CSF Glucose

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TEST NAME	TAT*	CONTAINER TYPE	MIN SAMPLE VOLUME WHOLE BLOOD	COLLECTION INSTRUCTIONS
CHOLESTEROL		Green or Gold Microtainer	0.4 mL	
CHROMOSOMES (KARYOTYPE)	7-12 days	Sodium Heparin vacutainer or Sodium Heparin syringe	1-3 mL	A HSC or Mt. Sinai chromosome requisition must be filled out. Send to the lab at room temp. Do not take sample on the weekend or late Friday.
COCAINE-URINE	24 hr	Sterile urine container	2 mL	A HSC toxicology form must be filled out. See Biochemistry section of SCI.
COCAINE – HAIR	M-F	Sterile urine container	5 mg	A HSC toxicology form must be filled out. Done only if urine screen is negative See Biochemistry Section of SCI
COMPLETE BLOOD COUNT and DIFFERENTIAL (CBC & DIFF)		Lavender Microtainer	0.25 mL	Mix gently 10 times after drawing to prevent formation of clots
Cord Blood -Blood Bank (Routine)		Pink top vacutainer 6 mL draw	3 mL	SIGNED, completely filled-in pink requisition MUST accompany FULLY labelled sample

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TEST NAME	TAT*	CONTAINER TYPE	MIN SAMPLE VOLUME WHOLE BLOOD	COLLECTION INSTRUCTIONS
Cord Blood -Hemoglobin		Lavender Microtainer	0.25 mL	Mix gently 10 times after drawing to prevent formation of clots
CORD GASES - Arterial - Venous	15 mins	Balanced Heparin syringe	0.3 mL syringe	1. Indicate if arterial or venous cord 2. Mix well. 3. Send on ice immediately
CORTISOL	SD	Gold Microtainer	0.5 mL	150 uL
CREATININE		Green or Gold Microtainer	0.4 mL	
CK (Creatine Kinase)		Green or Gold Microtainer	0.4 mL	
CRP		Green or Gold Microtainer	0.4 mL	
Critical Blood Work for NICU				
ACTH	7 days	Lavender Microtainer	1 mL	1. Pre chill tubes 2. Mix gently after drawing 3. Send to lab on ice
CORTISOL	SD	Gold Microtainer	0.5 mL	
Dehydroepiandrosterone sulphate (DHEAS)	1 week	Green Microtainer	0.5 mL	
FREE FATTY A ACIDS (FFAS)	weekly	Gold Microtainer preferred Green Microtainer acceptable	0.6 mL – Can be combined with Beta Hydroxybutyrate (0.6 mL for both).	FASTING Sample preferred
GROWTH HORMONE	7 days	Gold Microtainer	1.0 mL	
INSULIN	2 days	Green or Gold	1.0 mL	SEND ON ICE

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TEST NAME	TAT*	Microtainer		COLLECTION INSTRUCTIONS
		CONTAINER TYPE	MIN SAMPLE VOLUME WHOLE BLOOD	
Dehydroepiandrosterone sulphate (DHEAS)	1 week	Green Microtainer	0.5 mL	
D-DIMER	1 hr	BLUE COAG "MiniCollect" tube (3.2% sodium citrate)	1 MiniCollect for DD only 2 citrated "MiniCollect TUBES" if ordered with full Coag panel – PT/PTT, DD, and Fibrinogen	Add exactly 0.9 mL blood to liquid in each tube -Invert gently and thoroughly 4-6 times -Send to lab ASAP.
7 – DEHYDRO CHOLESTEROL	20 days	Green or Gold Microtainer	0.7 mL	Send to the lab protected from light
DIHYDRO-TESTOSTERONE (DHT)	20 days	Gold Microtainer	2.0 mL	
DIGOXIN		Green or Gold Microtainer	0.3 mL	
DILANTIN (Phenytoin)	SD	Green or Gold Microtainer	0.5 mL	
DIRECT ANTIGLOBULIN TEST (DAT)		Lavender Microtainer	1.0 mL	SIGNED, completely filled-in pink requisition MUST accompany FULLY labelled sample
ELECTROLYTES (NA, K+, CL)		Green or Gold Microtainer	0.4 mL	
ELECTROLYTES (URINE)		Sterile urine container	0.4 mL	
FACTOR ASSAYS – COAG		BLUE COAG "MiniCollect" tube (3.2% sodium citrate)	1 mL Not to be combined with full coag panel ** may need 2nd tube if more than 4 factors ordered	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Add exactly 0.9 mL blood to liquid in each tube. 2. Invert gently and thoroughly 4-6 times 3. Send to lab ASAP.

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TEST NAME	TAT*	CONTAINER TYPE	MIN SAMPLE VOLUME WHOLE BLOOD	COLLECTION INSTRUCTIONS
FERRITIN		Green or Gold Microtainer	0.5 mL	
FIBRINOGEN	1 hr	BLUE COAG "MiniCollect" tube (3.2% sodium citrate)	1 MiniCollect for repeat fibrinogen only 2 citrated "MiniCollect TUBES" if ordered with full Coag panel – PT/PTT, DD, and Fibrinogen	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Add exactly 0.9 mL blood to liquid in each tube. 2. Invert gently and thoroughly 4-6 times 3. Send to lab ASAP.
FREE T3		Green or Gold Microtainer	0.8 mL with TSH for full thyroid panel	
FREE T4		Green or Gold Microtainer	0.8 mL with TSH for full thyroid panel	
FREE FATTY ACIDS	Weekly	Gold Microtainer preferred Green Microtainer acceptable	0.6 mL – Can be combined with Beta Hydroxybutyrate (0.6 mL for both).	FASTING Sample preferred
FOLLICLE STIMULATING HORMONE (FSH)		Green or Gold Microtainer	0.4 mL	
Glucose-6-phosphate dehydrogenase (G-6-P-D) screen	Batch test. Performed Tues and Thurs	Lavender Microtainer	0.5 mL	CBC & Retic must be ordered with each G6PD Screen request. Send separate tube for CBC and Retic.
Glucose-6-phosphate dehydrogenase (G-6-P-D) assay	2 working days	Lavender Microtainer	0.25 mL	G-6-P-D screen results must be indeterminate or deficient.
GALACTOSEMIA SCREEN	Done on Fridays	HEPARIN SYRINGE	0.4 mL use a 3 mL syringe	Send on ice immediately to lab Test invalid if baby has been

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TEST NAME	TAT*	CONTAINER TYPE	MIN SAMPLE VOLUME WHOLE BLOOD	transfused COLLECTION INSTRUCTIONS
GAMMA GT (γGT) (Gamma-glutamyl transpeptidase)		Green or Gold Microtainer	0.4 mL	
GENTAMICIN -Trough -Peak -Random		Green or Gold Microtainer	0.5 mL	Trough: 0-30 min before next dose Peak: 30- 60 min after IV completed Indicate time on label
GLUCOSE - BLOOD		Green or Gold Microtainer	0.4 mL	
GLUCOSE - CSF	1 hr	CSF collection tube	0.4 mL (Glucose and Protein)	Send to lab ASAP. If delay anticipated, keep specimen at room temperature. If multiple tubes of CSF are collected, the first tube shall not be used for microbiological examination. Indicate the order collected on the tube. Send tube 1 for glucose.

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TEST NAME	TAT*	CONTAINER TYPE	MIN SAMPLE VOLUME WHOLE BLOOD	COLLECTION INSTRUCTIONS
GROUP & SCREEN - Blood Bank		Lavender Microtainer	1.0 mL	SIGNED, completely filled-in pink requisition MUST accompany FULLY labelled sample
GROWTH HORMONE (GH)	7 days	Gold Microtainer	1.0 mL	
HAPTOGLOBIN	2 days	Gold Microtainer	0.5 mL	
HEMOGLOBIN ELECTRO-PHORESIS	2 working days	Lavender Microtainer	0.25 mL	
17 – HYDROXY-PROGESTERONE	2 weeks	Gold Microtainer	0.8 mL	
HOMOCYSTEINE (TOTAL) - PLASMA	10 days	Lavender Microtainer	0.5 mL	Send on ice
Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV 1 and 2)	1-2 weeks	Lavender Microtainer	Need 2 mL of plasma	Sent to Hospital for Sick Children
Human Immunodeficiency Virus by DNA PCR	1-2 weeks	Lavender Microtainer	Need 2 mL of plasma	Sent to Hospital for Sick Children
INSULIN	2 days	Green or Gold Microtainer	1.0 mL	SEND ON ICE
INSULIN LIKE GROWTH FACTOR	7 days	Serum	1 mL	Send to lab on ice IMMEDIATELY
IONIZED CALCIUM		Heparin syringe	0.3 mL	Send on ice IMMEDIATELY
KARYOTYPE				See Chromosome studies
KETONES		Green or Gold Microtainer	0.4 mL	
LACTATE	15 Mins	Heparin syringe	0.3 mL	Send to lab on ice IMMEDIATELY
	4 hrs	Green		

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TEST NAME	TAT*	CONTAINER TYPE	MIN SAMPLE VOLUME WHOLE BLOOD	COLLECTION INSTRUCTIONS
LEUTINIZING HORMONE - LH		Green or Gold Microtainer	0.4 mL	
LIVER PANEL (Includes ALP, AST, ALT, and TBIL)		Green or Gold Microtainer	0.6 mL	
MAGNESIUM		Green or Gold Microtainer	0.4 mL 0.6 mL for panel with Ca, Phos, Mg, Alb	
METABOLIC SCREEN - URINE (Includes Amino Acid screen, DNPH, NITROPRUSSIDE)	7-10 DAYS	RANDOM URINE Sterile Urine Container	3-5 mL	
MET-HAEMOGLOBIN	15 min	Heparin syringe		Send to lab on ice Immediately.
MUCOPOLY-SACCHARIDES (SCREEN)	7-10 days	RANDOM URINE	10 mL	Refrigerate if sample not completed in one collection

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TEST NAME	TAT*	CONTAINER TYPE	MIN SAMPLE VOLUME WHOLE BLOOD	COLLECTION INSTRUCTIONS
NEONATAL HAIR & MECONIUM TOXICOLOGY	Varies	Sterile Urine Container	10 mL of meconium	Collect 10 mL of meconium in an orange-top specimen collection container from the first one or two bowel movements of the neonate during the first 24 hours post-partum. Samples collected beyond the first 24 hours may contain meconium, and are accepted. Label accordingly. Complete the NEONATAL HAIR & MECONIUM TOXICOLOGY REQUISITION. List the drugs to be tested.

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TEST NAME	TAT*	CONTAINER TYPE	MIN SAMPLE VOLUME WHOLE BLOOD	COLLECTION INSTRUCTIONS
NEONATAL HAIR & MECONIUM TOXICOLOGY	Varies	Sterile Urine Container or envelope	minimum of 5 mg of hair (approximately 20 strands).	<p>Always use disposable gloves when collecting a hair sample.</p> <p>Use new gloves for each subject.</p> <p>Since some infants are born with very little hair, you may need to cut hair from several areas of the head.</p> <p>While firmly holding the lock of hair, cut as close to the scalp as possible (within 2-4mm).</p> <p>Drop the hair in container and label appropriately.</p> <p>DO NOT USE TAPE ON INFANT HAIR!</p>

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TEST NAME	TAT*	CONTAINER TYPE	MIN SAMPLE VOLUME WHOLE BLOOD	COLLECTION INSTRUCTIONS
NEUROTRANSMITTER METABOLITES	14 days from receipt of sample	Call lab for special collection containers (total of 5 special containers)	3.5 mL of CSF	Call lab for special collection containers. Each set consists of 5 numbered tubes in a small plastic bag. Tube #3 contains antioxidants necessary to protect the sample from oxidation. One set of tubes is required per patient. CSF should be collected directly from the tap needle: Collect from the first drop into the containers in the order indicated. Fill each tube to the marked line (0.5 ml in tubes 1, 2, & 5 – 1.0 ml in tubes 3 & 4). Label each tube without covering up the tube number. Place the tubes into a biohazard plastic bag, place on ice, and send to lab immediately.
OLIGO-SACCHARIDES (SCREEN)	7-10 days	RANDOM URINE	1 mL	Refrigerate if sample not completed in one collection

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TEST NAME	TAT*	CONTAINER TYPE	MIN SAMPLE VOLUME WHOLE BLOOD	COLLECTION INSTRUCTIONS
ORGANIC ACIDS (qualitative)	5 days	RANDOM URINE	2 mL	Refrigerate if sample not completed in one collection
OSMOLALITY Urine		Sterile Urine Container	0.3 mL	
PCR – CSF for <i>Streptococcus pneumoniae</i> and <i>Neisseria meningitidis</i>	Mon – Friday same day	CSF sterile container	CSF collected by LP in sterile screw cap container. Minimum volume is 0.2 mL.	Consult with lab before requesting test. Approval by the microbiologist is required. Store in 4°C refrigerator for up to 48 hours; if >48 hrs, store at -20°C
PCR –VIROLOGY Testing-blood	Varies	Lavender Microtainer	0.4 mL	Indicate virus test required on the requisition
PCR-VIROLOGY Testing-CSF	Varies	CSF sterile container	0.25 mL	For Neonates and children ≤ 12 yrs only with a diagnosis of HSV encephalitis. Request Herpes Simplex Group (CMV, EBV, HHV8). Requires approval by a Medical Microbiologist. Indicate virus test required

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PHENOBARBITAL		Gold Microtainer	0.4 mL	Indicate pre, post dose or random
TEST NAME	TAT*	CONTAINER TYPE	MIN SAMPLE VOLUME WHOLE BLOOD	COLLECTION INSTRUCTIONS
PHENYTOIN (Dilantin)		Green or Gold Microtainer	0.5 mL	Indicate pre, post dose or random
PHOSPHATE (Inorganic)		Green or Gold Microtainer	0.4 mL 0.6mL for panel with Ca, Phos,Mg,Alb	
PTH, (Intact) (PARATHYROID HORMONE)		Lavender Microtainer	1.5 mL	Note time of draw
PT/PTT	1 hr	BLUE COAG "MiniCollect" tube (3.2% sodium citrate)	1 mL 2 citrated "MiniCollect TUBES for full Coag panel – PT/PTT, DD, and Fibrinogen	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Add exactly 0.9 mL blood to liquid in each tube. 2. Invert gently and thoroughly 4-6 times 3. Send to lab ASAP.

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TEST NAME	TAT*	CONTAINER TYPE	MIN SAMPLE VOLUME WHOLE BLOOD	COLLECTION INSTRUCTIONS
PKU (Neonatal Screen)	Varies	Newborn Screening Card		Follow SCI-5.7.16.0 Neonatal Screening-Blood Collection on Filter Paper (HL)
PYRUVATE	3 days	Lithium HEP SYRINGE or Green Microtainer	0.4 mL – -Lactate and pyruvate done on same sample	On ice to lab immediately (Must reach lab within 30 min of collection)
PROTEIN - CSF	1 hr	CSF collection tube	0.4 mL (Glucose and Protein)	See CSF Glucose
REDUCING SUBSTANCES (Urine Screen and panel)	5 days	Sterile Urine Container	URINE: 1 mL- screen - 5 mL full sugar panel (only done if screen is POS and Glucose NEG)	
REDUCING SUBSTANCES (Stool)	15 days	Sterile Urine Container	STOOL: 5g	Minimum 5g sample required.
RENIN	3 weeks	Lavender Microtainer	3 mL – 3 tubes	
RETICULOCYTE COUNT		Lavender Microtainer	0.25 mL	CBC must be ordered with each request for Retic
SIROLIMUS	3 days Mon. to Thur.	Lavender Microtainer	0.5 mL	Trough sample 0-30 min before next dose
TAY-SACHS (Hexosaminidase)	7-12 days	Heparin syringe	1-3 mL	A HSC Molecular Genetics requisition must be filled out. Do not take on weekend or late Friday. Send to the lab at room temp.

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TEST NAME	TAT*	CONTAINER TYPE	MIN SAMPLE VOLUME WHOLE BLOOD	COLLECTION INSTRUCTIONS
TESTOSTERONE -Total		Gold Microtainer	1 mL	
Thyroid function (FT3, FT4 and TSH)		Green or Gold Microtainer	0.8 mL	
TOBRAMYCIN -Trough -Peak -Random		Green or Gold Microtainer	0.4 mL	Indicate -Trough -Peak -Random on label
TORCH SCREEN – serology for Toxoplasmosis, Rubella, Cytomegalovirus, Herpes Simplex	7-10 days	Gold Microtainer	1-2 mL	Follow PHL requisition instructions. Parvovirus not part of TORCH panel.
TRANSFERRIN		Gold Microtainer	0.6 mL	
TRANSFERRIN ISOELECTRIC FOCUSING FOR CDG	Varies	2 mL (1.2 mL minimum). 3 Gold Microtainers		
TRIGLYCERIDES		Green or Gold Microtainer	0.4 mL	
UREA (BUN)		Green or Gold Microtainer	0.4 mL.	
URINALYSIS		Sterile Urine Container	2 mL urine	
VANCOMYCIN Trough -Peak -Random		Green or Gold Microtainer	0.5 mL	Indicate pre, post dose or random on label
Virus Isolation				Varies according to specimen type. Refer to SCI-5.7.15.2.10.
VITAMIN D;25 OH	12 DAYS	Gold Microtainer	0.4 mL	