

Routine Tests Requirements

Test	Stability	Handling	Transport
CBC	24hrs room temp	2.0mL min volume	Refrigerated
Sed Rate (ESR)	24hrs refrigerated	2.0mL min volume	Refrigerated
PT – Whole Blood (unspun)	24hrs room temp	Do not refrigerate	Must arrive 23hrs after collection at room temp
PT – Plasma (spun)	20°C for up to 2 weeks -70°C for 6 months	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Centrifuge within 4 hours of collection. Transfer into polypropylene vial (avoid buffy coat) Freeze immediately 	Frozen plasma on dry ice
PTT – Whole Blood (unspun)	4hrs room temp	Do not refrigerate	Must arrive 3hrs after collection at room temp
PTT – Plasma (spun)	20°C for up to 2 weeks -70°C for 6 months	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Centrifuge within 4 hours of collection. Transfer into polypropylene vial (avoid buffy coat) Freeze immediately 	Frozen plasma on dry ice
Urinalysis	BD vacutainer - 72hrs at room temp	Transfer urine to BD vacutainer with UA preservative	Refrigerated
Chemistry			
Ammonia	Frozen: 3 weeks	Immediately place on ice. Spin down within 15mins. Aliquot and freeze. Gold tops UNACCEPTABLE.	Frozen
Lactic Acid (Lactate)	Refrigerated: 3 days	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unclenched hands during collection Avoid using tourniquet if possible Tubes must be as least half filled. Spin within 15mins Separate plasma and refrigerate. Green/Gold tops UNACCEPTABLE 	Refrigerated
Ionized Calcium and Blood Gasses	Whole blood on ice	Deliver to lab within 1 hour	1 hour wet ice
Hemoglobin A1c	Refrigerated: 7 days	Do not spin. Microtainers UNACCEPTABLE	Refrigerated