

# SCRMC LAB SPECIMEN GUIDELINES

Version 2014.02.18

**ABG's:** See Blood Gases (Arterial) with or without Base Excess

## ABO BLOOD GROUP

**Specimen Requirement:** One pink top tube, can use 5 ml purple for cord blood. *Do not use SST (marble).*

**Minimum Volume:** 1 ml

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day

## ACETAMINOPHEN (TYLENOL)

See Tylenol

## ACID FAST CULTURE/AFB Stains (AFB - ACID FAST BACILLI)

**Specimen Requirement:** TB-Tuberculosis: *An acid fast smear always accompanies an acid fast culture.* There is an examination of the direct specimen and the concentrate. Acid Fast Stain and fluorescent stain is performed.

All specimens are to be collected in sealed leak-proof containers. Lids should be tightly sealed, and there should be no external spillage or contamination. Place container into a sealed plastic bag and deliver to Lab promptly. If delivery is delayed, refrigerate specimen.

Smear results are reported as soon as possible. Positive smear results are called to nursing service personnel and Infection Control. Concentrated specimen with positive smears are sent to State Lab for DNA probe. Results are generally available within a few days. Negative cultures are reported at the end of eight weeks.

*Sputum:* Collect at least 5 cc preferably first morning specimen collected in a sterile container. Sputum should be a deep cough specimen. A nonproductive cough produces only saliva, which is useless.

*Gastric Contents:* Stomach contents are aspirated, stomach is flushed with saline and again aspirated. Both specimens should be submitted.

*Bronchial Washings:* Collected surgically.

*Urine:* Submit entire first morning specimen, which is more satisfactory than an aliquot of a 24-hour specimen.

*Tissue:* Specimen should be sent in saline **not** formalin or any other preservative and should be transported to the Lab immediately.

*CSF:* Due to the small number of acid fast bacilli found in CSF, at least 10 mL of CSF is required. All specimens are to be labeled with the patient's name, hospital number, room number, source, time of collection, and collector's initials.

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** Negative cultures are reported at the end of eight weeks.

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## ACTIVATED PARTIAL THROMBOPLASTIN TIME (APTT)/APTT Mixing Study

**Specimen Requirement:** One 4 ml blue top (let pull to capacity); fresh - must be run within 4 hours of collection.

**Minimum Volume:** 1.8 blue top tube (fill to capacity)

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day

## ADENOVIRUS SCREEN

**Specimen Requirement:** Naso/pharyngeal swab or nasal washings

**Minimum Volume:** 1 swab or 0.5 ml of nasal washings

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day

## ALBUMIN, SERUM

**Specimen Requirement:** One 4 ml green top or one 8.5 ml SST tube (marble)

**Minimum Volume:** 3 ml blood

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day

## ALCOHOL, BLOOD

**Specimen Requirement:** One 4 ml green top or one 8.5 ml SST tube (marble) Use sterile H<sub>2</sub>O to cleanse area for venipuncture (or aqueous iodine prep); use **no alcohol**.

**Minimum Volume:** 3 ml blood

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day

## ALKALINE PHOSPHATASE, SERUM

**Specimen Requirement:** One 4 ml green top or one 8.5 ml SST tube (marble)

**Minimum Volume:** 3 ml blood

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day

## ALT

SGPT ALT (ALANINE TRANSAMINASE, GPT)

## AMMONIA, BLOOD

**Specimen Requirement:** One 4 ml green top; place in ice immediately; separate plasma within 20 minutes

**Minimum Volume:** 2 ml blood

**Patient Preparation:** Draw without using a tourniquet

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day

*Note: Blood ammonia increased 5%/minute between drawing specimen and freezing.*

## AMPHETAMINES

For Screening, see Drug Screen.

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## AMYLASE, SERUM

**Specimen Requirement:** One 4 ml green top or one 8.5 ml SST tube (marble)

**Minimum Volume:** 2 ml blood

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day

## AMYLASE, FLUIDS

**Specimen Requirement:** Body fluids except for urine

**Minimum Volume:** 2 ml fluid

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day

## AMYLASE, RANDOM URINE

**Specimen Requirement:** Random urine collection

**Minimum Volume:** 2 ml urine

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day

## ANTIBODY ID PANEL

**Specimen Requirement:** One EDTA pink top tube. *Do not use SST (marble) tube.*

**Minimum Volume:** 5 ml

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day

## ANTIBODY SCREEN GEL (INDIRECT COMBS)

See Type and Screen

## APTT - See Activated Partial Thromboplastin Time

## ARTHRITIC PANEL

**Specimen Requirement:** One 4 ml purple top (*do not use purple microtainer*) and one 8.5 ml SST tube (marble)

**Minimum Volume:** 1.5 ml purple top and 4.0 ml SST tube

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day except for ANA which is sent to reference lab

## ASPIRIN, SERUM

See Salicylate

## AST

See SGOT AST (ASPARTATE TRANSAMINASE, GOT)

## AUTOPSY

**Requirement:** In-house death. Written request from physician; signed consent form; copy of chart for Pathology

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## **B12 (Vitamin B 12)**

**Specimen Requirement:** One 4 ml green top or one 8.5 ml SST tube (marble)

**Minimum Volume:** 2 ml blood

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day

## **BARBITURATES**

For Screening, see Drug Screen.

## **BASIC METABOLIC PANEL (BMP, CHEM 8)**

**Specimen Requirement:** One 4 ml green top or one 8.5 ml SST tube (marble)

**Minimum Volume:** 2 ml blood

**Patient Preparation:** Fasting

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day or STAT

## **BENZODIAZEPINES**

For Screening, see Drug Screen.

## **Beta Hydroxybutyrate (BHB-Ketone)**

**Specimen Requirement:** One 4 ml green top or 8 ml SST (Mable)

**Minimum Volume:** 2 ml

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day

## **BILIRUBIN DIRECT**

**Specimen Requirement:** One 4 ml green top or one 8.5 ml SST tube (marble), protect from light

**Minimum Volume:** 2 ml blood

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day

## **BILIRUBIN NEONATAL**

**Specimen Requirement:** One Green top microtainer, fill tube to top of frosted portion, approximately 500 µl

**Minimum Volume:** 300 µl

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day

## **BILIRUBIN TOTAL**

**Specimen Requirement:** One 4 ml green top or one 8.5 ml SST tube (marble), protect from light

**Minimum Volume:** 2 ml blood

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day

## **BLEEDING TIME**

**Specimen Requirement:** Special procedure.

**Minimum Volume:**

**Patient Preparation:** This test must be performed by a Tech.

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day

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## BLOOD SMEAR REVIEW

**Specimen Requirement:** One 4 ml purple top with smears, patient's age, CBC results. Test to be interpreted by pathologist.

**Minimum Volume:** Non-applicable

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day

## BLOOD CULTURES

**Specimen Requirement:** Two (2) blood culture bottles are drawn with each request. One is for aerobic microorganisms and one for anaerobic microorganisms. If patient is on antibiotics, draw appropriate antibiotic bottle. The site for venipuncture is carefully cleaned with a scrub kit. This prevents contamination of the blood culture. A preliminary report is sent after full 24 hours of incubation, if no growth occurs. If there is no growth after 24 hours, the cultures are held 5 days before reporting as negative. *Positive blood cultures are called immediately upon discovery.* (Checked every ten minutes by automation.) Use the PF pediatric bottle for children and the FA if the patient is already on antibiotics.

Blood cultures may be drawn in a syringe, if the patient site preparation is adhered to and the transfer of the blood to blood culture media is done aseptically.

**Minimum Volume:** At least 5 ml blood per bottle for adult and 2 ml blood for children per culture request.

**Patient Preparation:** Scrub appropriately with scrub kit

**Turnaround Time:** 5 days, if negative and if positive, immediately upon growth noted.

## BLOOD GASES with or without Base Excess (ARTERIAL)

**Specimen Requirement:** Not less than 1 ml heparinized. (Anaerobically) Keep on ice.

**Minimum Volume:** 1 ml blood

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** STAT

## BLOOD GASES (VENOUS)

**Specimen Requirement:** One full 4 ml draw heparinized tube (green top). Keep on ice

**Minimum Volume:** 4 ml blood

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** STAT

## BNP (B. NATRIURETIC PEPTIDE)

**Specimen Requirement:** One purple top tube

**Minimum Volume:** 1 ml blood

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** STAT

## BODY FLUIDS Crystals

**Specimen Requirement:** Fresh fluid brought immediately to lab or in purple tube  
(Joint fluids will clot quickly put in EDTA (purple))

**Minimum Volume:** 1 ml

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turn Around Time:** 1 Day

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## BODY FLUIDS (PLEURAL, KNEE, Bron Wash ETC) COUNT AND DIFFERENTIAL

**Specimen Requirement:** Fresh fluid brought immediately to the Lab in syringe or sterile container or placed in EDTA (purple) tube.

**Minimum Volume:** 1 ml

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day

## BONE MARROW

**Specimen Requirement:** Dependant upon orders of physician performing bone marrow.

**Minimum Volume:**

**Patient Preparation:** Patient must sign consent form for bone marrow to be performed.

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day after collection

Note: Check with Histology Department

## BUN (Urea Nitrogen)

**Specimen Requirement:** One 4 ml green top or one 8.5 ml SST tube (marble)

**Minimum Volume:** 2 ml blood

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day

## BUPRENORPHINE

For screening, see Drug Screen

## CALCIUM, SERUM

**Specimen Requirement:** One 4 ml green top or one 8.5 ml SST tube (marble)

**Minimum Volume:** 3 ml blood

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day

## CARBAMAZEPINE (TEGRETOL)

**Specimen Requirement:** One 4 ml green top or one 8.5 ml SST tube (marble)

**Minimum Volume:** 2 ml blood

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day

## CARBON MONOXIDE AS CARBOXYHEMOGLOBIN

**Specimen Requirement:** 4 ml EDTA, protect from light. Obtain *before* oxygen therapy has started.

**Minimum Volume:** 2 ml

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day-Positive results sent to Reference Lab for confirmation

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## **CBC (COMPLETE BLOOD COUNT)**

**Specimen Requirement:** One 4 ml purple top (EDTA) tube or purple microtainer

**Minimum Volume:** 250 µl (microtainer)

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day

## **CELL BLOCK**

**Specimen Requirement:** Collect in sterile container. Path: spin body fluids down and use sediment as cell block.

**Minimum Volume:** NA

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** See Path

## **CELL COUNT & DIFF**

See BODY FLUIDS (PLEURAL, KNEE, Bron Wash ETC) COUNT AND DIFFERENTIAL or for blood see CBC

## **CHEMISTRY PANEL BASIC METABOLIC (BMP, CHEM 8)**

**Specimen Requirement:** One 4 ml green top or one 8.5 ml SST tube (marble)

**Minimum Volume:** 3 ml blood

**Patient Preparation:** Fasting (can order non-fasting- please document)

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day or STAT

## **CHEMISTRY PANEL COMPREHENSIVE (CMP, CHEM 14)**

**Specimen Requirement:** One 4 ml green top or one 8.5 ml SST tube (marble)

**Minimum Volume:** 3 ml blood

**Patient Preparation:** Fasting-Doctor can order non-fasting (this comment should be noted on request slip)

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day or STAT

## **CHLORIDE, CSF, FLUIDS**

**Specimen Requirement:** Spinal fluid or other body fluid

**Minimum Volume:** 0.5 ml

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day

## **CHLORIDE, SERUM**

**Specimen Requirement:** One 4 ml green top or one 8.5 ml SST tube (marble)

**Minimum Volume:** 2 ml blood

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day

## **CHLORIDE, RANDOM URINE**

**Specimen Requirement:** Random urine specimen. No expected normal range for random specimens.

**Minimum Volume:** 2 ml urine

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day

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## CHOLESTEROL, TOTAL

**Specimen Requirement:** One 4 ml green top or one 8.5 ml SST tube (marble)

**Minimum Volume:** 3 ml blood

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day

## CK-MB ONLY (CREATINE PHOSPHOKINASE MB FRACTION ONLY)

**Specimen Requirement:** One 4 ml green top. *Do not use microtainer.*

**Minimum Volume:** 3 ml blood

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day

## CLOSTRIDIUM DIFFICILE MOLECULAR

**Specimen Requirement:** Fresh stool. Specimen must be received *FRESH* in lab.

**Minimum Volume:** 1 ml liquid specimen.

**Patient Preparation:** Random stool- **Do not scrape off diaper or diaper pad**

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day

**Collections-** Unpreserved human stool transported and stored at 2-8°C Specimens tested as soon as possible, may be held up to 24hrs at 21-27 C or 5 days 2-8C. Past 5 days frozen and thawed once, (-20). Preserved in Cary-Blair-based media same as Unpreserved expected frozen immediately for up to seven days.

## CO2C

**Specimen Requirement:** One 4 ml green top or one 8 ml SST (Marble)

**Minimum Volume:** 2 ml blood

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day

## COCAINE

For Screening, see Drug Screen.

## COMBS, DIRECT

**Specimen Requirement:** One pink top tube or one 4 ml purple (EDTA).

**Minimum Volume:** 1 ml

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day

## COMBS, INDIRECT (ANTIBODY SCREEN)

**Specimen Requirement:** One pink top tube. *Do not use SST (marble).*

**Minimum Volume:** 1 ml

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day

## COMPREHENSIVE METABOLIC PANEL

**Specimen Requirement:** One 4 ml green top or one 8.5 ml SST tube (marble)

**Minimum Volume:** 3 ml blood



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**Patient Preparation:** Fasting - Doctor can order non-fasting this comment should be noted on request slip)

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day or STAT

## CORTISOL, AM, PM, BASELINE, STIMULATED

**Specimen Requirement:** One 4 ml green top or one 8.5 ml SST tube (marble)

**Minimum Volume:** 3 ml blood

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day

## CPK SERUM (CREATINE PHOSPHOKINASE, CREATINE KINASE, CK, CPK)

**Specimen Requirement:** One 4 ml green top or one 8.5 ml SST tube (marble) *Do not use microtainer.*

**Minimum Volume:** 3 ml blood

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day

## CRP (C-REACTIVE PROTEIN QUANTITATIVE- High Sensitive)

**Specimen Requirement:** One 4 ml green top or one 8.5 ml SST tube (marble)

**Minimum Volume:** 2 ml blood

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day

## CREATININE, BODY FLUIDS

**Specimen Requirement:** Body fluids

**Minimum Volume:** 2 ml

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day

## CREATININE CLEARANCE

**Specimen Requirement:** One 4 ml green top or one 8.5 ml SST tube (marble) and a 24 hour urine collection

**Minimum Volume:** 2 ml blood and a 24 hour urine collection

**Patient Preparation:** Avoid cephalosporins. If possible, drugs should be stopped beforehand. Have patient drink water before the clearance is begun and continue good hydration throughout the clearance. A meat free diet is recommended.

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day

## CREATININE, RANDOM URINE

**Specimen Requirement:** Random urine specimen

**Minimum Volume:** 2 ml urine

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day

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## CREATININE, SERUM

**Specimen Requirement:** One 4 ml green top or one 8.5 ml SST tube (marble)

**Minimum Volume:** 3 ml blood

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day

## CROSS MATCH (SEE INDENT-A-BLOOD SYSTEM SECTION OF MANUAL)

**Specimen Requirement:** One pink top tube. *Do not use SST (marble) tube.*

**Minimum Volume:** 1 ml

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day

## CRYPTOSPORIDIUM ANTIGEN

**Specimen Requirement:** Fresh stool

**Minimum Volume:** 1 ml liquid stool or 1 gm

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day

**Collection:** Collected in clean, leak-proof plastic containers. May collect in SAF, 10% formalin, MIF, Cary-Blair, C&S or Stuart's transport media. PVA not suitable.  
Solid, semi-solid, or liquid stool are acceptable.

## CULTURE, BLOOD

**SEE BLOOD CULTURE**

## CULTURE, FUNGUS

**SEE FUNGUS CULTURE**

## CULTURE, GROUP B COLONI

**Specimen Requirement:** One aerobic swab

**Minimum Volume:** 1 culture swab

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** Preliminary report in 24 hours, final in 48 hours (in most cases).

## CULTURE, MRSA

**Specimen Requirement:** One aerobic swab.

**Minimum Volume:** 1 culture swab

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** Preliminary report in 24 hours, final in 48 hours (in most cases).

## CULTURE, Routine Other

**Specimen Requirement:** Dependant upon source

One aerobic swab

One anaerobic swab is possibility of anaerobes

**Minimum Volume:** 1 culture swab &/or anaerobic swab

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** Preliminary report in 24 hours, final in 48 hours (in most cases).

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## **CULTURE, Throat**

**Specimen Requirement:** One aerobic swab

**Minimum Volume:** 1 culture swab

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** Preliminary report in 24 hours, final in 48 hours (in most cases).

## **CULTURE, STOOL**

**Specimen Requirement:** Random Stool or one culture swab.

**Minimum Volume:** 1 culture swab

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** Preliminary report in 24 hours, final in 48 hours (in most cases).

## **CULTURE, URINE**

**Specimen Requirement:** Clean Catch Urine or Cath

**Minimum Volume:** 1 ml urine

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** Preliminary report in 24 hours, final in 48 hours (in most cases).

## **CULTURE, VRE**

**Specimen Requirement:** One aerobic swab.

**Minimum Volume:** 1 culture swab

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** Preliminary report in 24 hours, final in 48 hours (in most cases).

## **CULTURE- MISCELLANEOUS BACTERIOLOGY**

Routine cultures are performed on any body source suspected of bacterial infection. Proper collection is extremely important.

Culture swabs should be collected from the red, inflamed or draining area, avoiding the surrounding area which often contains contaminating normal bacteria.

All swabs should be placed in transport media immediately after the site has been swabbed. This is done by either breaking the ampule in the bottom of the collection tube or by pushing the swab down into the media at the bottom of the tube, depending on the type of swab used.

Other specimens should be collected in dry, sterile containers.

Urine specimens should be catheterized or clean catch midstream. Voided specimens should not be sent.

Blood cultures are to be collected only by personnel who have been instructed in the proper collection of these specimens.

Sputum specimens should be early morning, deep cough, if possible. These specimens should not contain saliva.

Certain specimens, such as various fluids, CSF, cervix, etc., should only be collected by a physician or nurse practitioner.

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All specimens should be transported to the lab as soon as collected. If delivery is delayed, the specimen should be refrigerated.

Any dry swab or inadequate specimen will be rejected, and a new specimen requested. Specimen lids should be secured tightly. Outside of containers should not be contaminated. Specimens should be placed in a biohazard bag and sealed.

A gram stain is to be ordered with all wound cultures and sputums

A colony count is performed on all urine specimens exhibiting growth.

Any source that can possibly be infected with anaerobic bacteria is cultured for these organisms when a routine culture is ordered. An anaerobic swab should be collected along with an aerobic swab for all wound specimens.

Genital sources are always cultured for *Neisseria gonorrhoeae* (GC). Gram stains on genital specimens are performed only if requested by the physician.

Stools are routinely cultured for *Salmonella*, *Shigella*, *Yersinia*, *Campylobacter*, *E. Coli* 157, *Dhiga ToxinA+B* and any other predominant gram negative rod.

Critical values - positive blood and CSF cultures - are phoned to nursing service personnel immediately upon discovery.

Preliminary reports for nonpathogenic growth are sent at 24-36 hours or as soon as pathogenic growth is detected.

Final reports are sent at 48-60 hours or as soon as completed, if prior to this. CSF and blood culture final reports are sent in five days.

Only a final report is sent for Strep Screens as soon as adequate growth occurs.

All specimens should be labeled with patient's name, hospital number, room number, source, time of collection and collector's initials.

## CYTOLOGY, PATHOLOGY

**Specimen Requirement:** Pap Smear (GYN) - place in 95% alcohol on glass slides, back to back.

**Minimum Volume:** N/A

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** 2 working days

**Specimen Requirement:** Pap Smear (NON-GYN) Body Fluids - Send fresh to laboratory. (If unable to process, place in the refrigerator.)

**Minimum Volume:** NA

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** 2 working days

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## **D-DIMER**

**Specimen Requirement:** One 4.5 ml blue top tube.

**Minimum Volume:** 1.8 ml tube

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day

## **DEPAKENE (VALPROIC ACID)**

**Specimen Requirement:** One 4 ml green top or one 8.5 ml SST tube (marble).

**Minimum Volume:** 2 ml blood

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day

## **DIGOXIN**

**Specimen Requirement:** One 4 ml green top or one 8.5 ml SST tube (marble)

**Minimum Volume:** 2 ml blood

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day

## **DILANTIN (PHEYTOIN)**

**Specimen Requirement:** One 4 ml green top or one 8.5 ml SST tube (marble)

**Minimum Volume:** 2 ml blood

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day

## **DRUG SCREEN (Urine Drug Screen done in-house includes: opiate, amphetamine, barbiturate, cocaine, benzodiazepine, PCP, THC, Tricyclic Antidepressants, methadone and Methamphetamines, Oxycodone, Propoxyphene, Buprenorphine)**

**Specimen Requirement:** 10 ml urine for in-house and 50 ml urine for reference laboratory

**Minimum Volume:** 10 ml

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day

## **DRUG SCREEN COMPREHENSIVE**

Sent to reference lab.

## **DU FACTOR**

**Specimen Requirement:** One pink top tube.

**Minimum Volume:** 1 ml

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day

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## **EOSINOPHIL COUNT (SWAB OR SPUTUM)**

**Specimen Requirement:** Nasal/eye swab or fresh sputum. Specimen must be received in the laboratory within one hour of collection. State source.

**Minimum Volume:** One swab or 1 ml sputum

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day

## **ESR**

See SED RATE, WESTERGREN (ESR)

## **FECAL CULTURE**

See Culture, Stool

## **FECAL LEUKOCYTES**

**Specimen Requirement:** Random stool

**Minimum Volume:** 1ml or 1 gm

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day

## **FECAL OCCULT BLOOD**

**Specimen Requirement:** Random Stool

**Minimum Volume:** 1 ml or 1 gm

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day

## **FECAL pH**

**Specimen Requirement:** Random Stool

**Minimum Volume:** 1 ml or 1 gm

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day

## **FECAL REDUCING SUBSTANCES**

**Specimen Requirement:** Random Stool

**Minimum Volume:** 1 ml or 1 gm

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day

## **FERRITIN**

**Specimen Requirement:** One 8.5 ml SST tube (marble) or one 4 ml green top

**Minimum Volume:** 2 ml blood

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day

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## FETAL FIBRONECTIN

**Specimen Requirement:** Specimen collection kit (Hologic) located in OB exam room

**Minimum Volume:** One swab

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day

## FIBRINOGEN

**Specimen Requirement:** One 4.5 ml sodium citrate blue top. Let draw to capacity.

**Minimum Volume:** 1.8 ml blue top (filled to capacity).

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day

## FOLATE

**Specimen Requirement:** One 8.5 ml SST tube (marble) or one 4 ml green top

**Minimum Volume:** 2 ml blood

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day

## FREE T4

**Specimen Requirement:** One 8.5 ml SST tube (marble) or one 4 ml green top

**Minimum Volume:** 2 ml blood

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day

## FRESH FROZEN PLASMA (FFP) [See Ident-A-Blood System Section of Manual]

**Specimen Requirement:** One pink top tube. *Do not use SST tube.*

**Minimum Volume:** 1ml

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day

## FROZEN SECTION

**Specimen Requirement:** Surgery specimen; fresh (no formalin).

**Minimum Volume:** NA

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** STAT

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## **FUNGUS CULTURE**

All specimens are to be collected in sealed leakproof containers. Lids should be tightly sealed, and there should be no external spillage or contamination. Place container into a sealed biohazard bag and deliver to Lab promptly. If delivery is delayed, refrigerated specimen.

Negative cultures are reported at the end of a maximum 6 weeks.

Sputum: Preferably first morning deep cough.

Bronchial Washing: Collected surgically.

CSF: Collected aseptically by physician.

Skin scrapings, nail clippings, hair: Place into a dry, clean specimen cup or envelope.

Tissue: Specimen should be sent in saline.

**Blood: See Blood Culture- Fungus and bacteria culture can be processed together**

**Be sure to order fungus culture**

Urine: Preferably first morning, cath or clean catch specimen.

Throat, wound, etc: Swab inflamed area, break ampule in bottom of swab - dry swab will be rejected.

All specimens are to be labeled with the patient's name, hospital number, room number, source, time of collection, and collector's initials.

## **GAMMA G T**

**Specimen Requirement:** One 4 ml green top or one 8.5 ml SST tube (marble)

**Minimum Volume:** 2 ml blood

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day

## **GASTRIC OCCULT BLOOD**

**Specimen Requirement:** Gastric contents

**Minimum Volume:** 1 ml

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day

## **GENTAMYCIN (GARAMYCIN), Peak, Trough or Random**

**Specimen Requirement:** One 4 ml green top or one 8.5 ml SST tube (marble). Peak, Trough and Random: Per protocol.

**Minimum Volume:** 3 ml blood

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day

## **GFR (GLOMERULAR FILTRATION RATE)**

**Specimen Requirement:** One 4 ml green top or one 8.5 ml SST tube (marble)

**Minimum Volume:** 3 ml blood

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day



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## GIARDIA ANTIGEN

**Specimen Requirement:** Fresh stool collected in clean, leak-proof plastic containers. May collect in SAF, 10% formalin, MIF, Cary-Blair, C&S or Stuart's transport media. PVA not suitable. Fresh samples and Stuart's media should be tested as soon as possible. If not specimens should be refrigerated or frozen. Can only thaw once.

**Minimum Volume:** Solid, semi-solid, or liquid stool are acceptable 1 ml or gm.

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day

## GLUCOSE (Specific: (1) fasting, (2) post prandial, (3) special time:

**Specimen Requirement:** One 4 ml green top or one 8.5 ml SST tube (marble)

**Minimum Volume:** 3 ml blood

**Patient Preparation:** (1) Fasting; (2) Specify after meal or Glucola and time; (3) No preparation; specify time.

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day

## GLUCOSE, NON-FASTING

**Specimen Requirement:** One 4 ml green top or one 8.5 ml SST tube (marble)

**Minimum Volume:** 3 ml blood

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day

## GLUCOSE TOLERANCE TEST - BLOOD AND URINE

**Specimen Requirement:** Collect fasting blood (green top or marble top) and urine samples. After Chemistry notifies you it is ok to proceed, give patient Glucola to drink. Record time patient *finishes* drinking Glucola; 30 minutes (label ½ hr) later, collect blood and urine specimens; 30 minutes later collect 1 hour sample, and every hour thereafter for duration of tolerance. Number of hours dependent on physician. If not specified, the routine is a 3-hour tolerance. Children under age 12 years- 1.75 grams of beverage per kilogram of body weight. (Limeondex Beverage contains 5 gms glucose/fl.oz) (Sun-Dex Beverage contains 10 gms glucose/fl.oz)

**Minimum Volume:** 3 ml blood (1 ml urine)

**Patient Preparation:** Fasting

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day

## GRAM STAIN

**Specimen Requirement:** Send specimen or swab in culture tube. Dry swabs will be rejected.

**Minimum Volume:** NA

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day

## GROUP B STREP (DIRECTOGEN)

**Specimen Requirement:** CSF 0.5 ml or one 8.5 ml SST (marble) tube. *Cannot use urine.*

**Minimum Volume:** CSF 0.5 ml, 1 ml serum

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day

# SCRMC LAB SPECIMEN GUIDELINES

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## **HAEMOPHILUS INFLUENZA AG (DIRECTIGEN)**

**Specimen Requirement:** 1 ml CSF or 1 ml serum.

**Minimum Volume:** 1 ml CSF or 1 ml serum

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day

## **HANSEL STAIN**

**Specimen Requirement:** Fresh urine

**Minimum Volume:** 10 ml urine

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day

## **HCG, SERUM (QUAL)**

**Specimen Requirement:** One 8.5 ml SST tube (marble) or red top

**Minimum Volume:** 1 ml

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day

## **HCG, SERUM (QUAN)**

**Specimen Requirement:** One 8.5 ml SST tube (marble)

**Minimum Volume:** 3 ml blood

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day

## **HCG, URINE QUALITATIVE**

**Specimen Requirement:** 1<sup>st</sup> A.M. urine >10 days after last missed period

**Minimum Volume:** 0.5 ml

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day

## **HEMATOCRIT**

**Specimen Requirement:** One 4 ml purple top or capillary (fingerstick) blood placed in an EDTA microtainer (purple)

**Minimum Volume:** 250 µl (microtainer)

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** STAT

## **HEMATOLOGY EVALUATION CONSULT BY PATHOLOGIST**

**Specimen Requirement:** Designated by Pathologist

**Minimum Volume:** NA

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day

# SCRMC LAB SPECIMEN GUIDELINES

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## HEMOGLOBIN

**Specimen Requirement:** One 4 ml purple top or capillary (fingerstick) blood placed in an EDTA microtainer (purple)

**Minimum Volume:** 250 µl microtainer

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** STAT

## HEMOGLOBIN A1C

**Specimen Requirement:** One 4 ml purple top

**Minimum Volume:** 2 ml blood

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day

## HEPARIN ANTI-XA, LOVENOX

**Specimen Requirement:** One 4 ml blue top (let pull to capacity); fresh - must be run within 4 hours of collection. Send to lab immediately. **Minimum Volume:** 1.8 blue top tube (fill to capacity)

**Patient Preparation:** Draw 4 hours after the 3<sup>rd</sup> dose of heparin XA. Sample should be collected in extremity opposite where the heparin is being given. **Turnaround Time:** 1 Day

## HIV AB SCREEN

**Specimen Requirement:** One 8.5 ml SST (marble) tube or purple (EDTA) or green (heparin).

**Minimum Volume:** 1 ml

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day

## INDIA INK PREP

**Specimen Requirement:** For Cryptococcus neoformans. Fresh spinal fluid collected by physician.

**Minimum Volume:** 1 ml

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day

## INFLUENZA A +B AG

**Specimen Requirement:** Flu swab from kit, Nasal Wash or Aspirate

**Minimum Volume:** One swab or 1 ml of wash or Aspirate

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day

**Specimen Requirement:** Nasal Swab Sample: For proper test performance use the swabs supplied in the kit obtain from lab (one swab issued for each order). To collect a nasal swab sample, insert the sterile swab into the nostril that presents the most secretion under visual inspection. Using gentle rotation, push the swab until the resistance is met at the level of the turbinates (less than one inch into the nostril). Rotate the swab a few times against the nasal wall.

Nasal Wash or Aspirate Sample:

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For Older Children and Adults: With the patient's head hyper-extended, instill about 2.5 mL of sterile, normal saline into one nostril with a syringe. To collect the wash, place a clean, dry specimen container directly under the nose with slight pressure on the upper lip. Tilt the head forward and allow the fluid to run out of the nostril into the specimen container. Repeat for the other nostril and collect the fluid into the sample specimen container.

For Younger Children: The child should sit in the parent's lap facing forward, with the child's back against the parent's chest. The parent should wrap one arm around the child in a manner that will restrain the child's body and arms. Fill an aspiration bulb or bulb syringe with up to 2.5 mL of sterile, normal saline (depending on the size of the child), and instill the saline into one nostril while the head is tilted back. Release the pressure on the bulb to aspirate the specimen back into the bulb. Transfer the specimen into a clean, dry specimen container. Repeat the process for the child's other nostril and transfer the specimen into the same specimen container.

Sample Transport and Storage: Do not use any kind of transport media to store or transfer samples. Send to lab immediately. Must be complete within one hour of collection.

## IRON

**Specimen Requirement:** One 4 ml green top or one 8.5 ml SST tube (marble); avoid hemolysis.

**Minimum Volume:** 3 ml blood

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day

## IRON BINDING CAPACITY (Order Transferrin Saturation)

**Specimen Requirement:** One 8.5 mL SST tube (marble) avoid hemolysis.

**Minimum Volume:** 3 ml blood

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day

## KETONES, (BHB), SERUM QUANT

**Specimen Requirement:** 1 green or marble blood

**Minimum Volume:** 2 ml blood

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day

## KOH PREP

**Specimen Requirement:** Any source, except skin, hair, nail or CSF, suspected of fungal infection. For CSF see India Ink prep dependent upon source; use sterile technique.

**Minimum Volume:** 1 ml

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day

## KOH TISSUE

**Specimen Requirement:** Skin, hair or nail

**Minimum Volume:** NA

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day

# SCRM LAB SPECIMEN GUIDELINES

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## LACTIC ACID

**Specimen Requirement:** One 4 ml gray top on ice; must be received in laboratory within 15 minutes of collection

**Minimum Volume:** 2 ml

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day

## LACTOSE TOLERANCE

**Specimen Requirement:** Collect fasting blood (green top or marble top). After Chemistry notifies you it is ok to proceed, give patient lactose mixture to drink. Record time patient *finishes* drinking lactose mixture; 15 minutes; 30 minutes later collect blood; 30 minutes later collect 1 hour sample, and every hour thereafter for duration of tolerance. Number of hours dependent on physician. If not specified, the routine is a 3-hour tolerance.

**Minimum Volume:** 3 ml blood

**Patient Preparation:** Fasting

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day

## LDH (LACTIC DEHYDROGENASE, LD)

**Specimen Requirement:** One 4 ml green top or one 8.5 ml SST tube (marble); avoid hemolysis; or one 4 ml green top

**Minimum Volume:** 3 ml blood

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day

## Lamellar Body Count

**Specimen Requirement:** Amniotic Fluid

**Minimum Volume:** 2 ml in purple tube

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** STAT

## LEUKOCYTES, STOOL

See FECAL LEUKOCYTES

## LIPASE

**Specimen Requirement:** One 4 ml green top or one 8.5 ml SST tube (marble)

**Minimum Volume:** 3 ml blood

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day

## LIPIDS: HDL, TRIG, CHOL

**Specimen Requirement:** One 4 ml green top or one 8.5 ml SST tube (marble)

**Minimum Volume:** 3 ml blood

**Patient Preparation:** 12 hour fasting

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day

# SCRM LAB SPECIMEN GUIDELINES

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## LIVER (HEPATIC) FUNCTION PANEL

**Specimen Requirement:** One 4 ml green top or one 8.5 ml SST tube (marble)

**Minimum Volume:** 3 ml blood

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day

## MAGNESIUM, BLOOD

**Specimen Requirement:** One 4 ml green top or one 8.5 ml SST tube (marble)

**Minimum Volume:** 3 ml blood

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day

## MALARIA SMEARS

**Specimen Requirement:** Capillary (fingerstick) blood; two thick and two thin blood smears

**Minimum Volume:** NA

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day

## METHADONE

For Screening, see Drug Screen.

## METHAMPHETAMINES

For Screening, see Drug Screen.

## Micro Exam Arthropod

**Specimen Requirement:** Possible arthropod

**Minimum Volume:** At least one arthropod

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day

## MONO TEST

**Specimen Requirement:** One 8.5 ml SST top (marble) or one 4 ml purple top or one 4 ml green top

**Minimum Volume:** 1 ml (either tube)

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day

## MRSA SCREEN

**Specimen Requirement:** One aerobic swab.

**Minimum Volume:** 1 culture swab

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** Preliminary report in 24 hours, final in 48 hours (in most cases).

# SCRMC LAB SPECIMEN GUIDELINES

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## MYCOPLASMA PNEUMONIAE SCREEN

**Specimen Requirement:** One 8.5 ml SST top (marble) tube.

**Minimum Volume:** 1 ml

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day

## MYOGLOBIN, BLOOD

**Specimen Requirement:** One 4 ml green top. *Do not use microtainer.*

**Minimum Volume:** 3 ml blood

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day

## NASAL OR EYE SWAB FOR EOSINOPHIL COUNT

**Specimen Requirement:** See Eosinophil Count

## NEISSERIA MENINGITIDIS AG

**Specimen Requirement:** CSF, one 8.5 ml SST tube (marble).

**Minimum Volume:** 1 ml CSF, 1 ml serum.

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day

## OCCULT BLOOD, GASTRIC/VOMITUS

**Specimen Requirement:** Gastric aspirate or vomitus

**Minimum Volume:** 1 ml

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day

## OCCULT BLOOD, STOOL

**Specimen Requirement:** Random stool

**Minimum Volume:** 1 ml or 1 gm

**Patient Preparation:** High residue, meat-free diet starting 2 days before testing and continue through collection. Diet which include raw or cooked vegetables, fruit, moderate amounts of peanuts, popcorn and bran cereal daily, helps to minimize false positive reactions and also provides roughage to help uncover "silent" lesions. Small amounts of chicken or tuna fish allowed but red meat avoided. As well as foods containing peroxidase or peroxidase- like substances (turnips and horseradish) Tonic or Vitamin containing ascorbic acid will give false negative test results. Aspirin, steroids, rauwolfia, indomethacin and colchicine discontinued 2 days before. Patient may be tested without prior preparation of patient but if one or more tests are positive, the patient should be placed on diet and retested.

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day

## OCCULT BLOOD, URINE

**Specimen Requirement:** Random urine

**Minimum Volume:** 1 ml

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day

# SCRMC LAB SPECIMEN GUIDELINES

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## OCP

See Ova, Cyst and Parasites

## OPIATES

For Screening, see Drug Screen.

## OSMOLALITY, SERUM

**Specimen Requirement:** One 8.5 ml SST tube (marble).

**Minimum Volume:** 2 ml blood

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day

## OSMOLALITY, URINE

**Specimen Requirement:** Random urine

**Minimum Volume:** 2 ml urine

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day

## OVA, CYSTS, AND PARASITES (OCP)

**Specimen Requirement:** Stool specimen labeled with lid secured tightly to container. Outside of container should not be contaminated with specimen. Stools containing barium, oil, water or urine will be rejected. Deliver promptly. Stool should be tested within 3-4 hours of collection, if not possible refrigerated. Brushes should be processed as soon as possible. Except for liquid stools, fresh stools placed in fixative within one hour.

**Minimum Volume:** 2 ml or 2 gm

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day

## OXYCODONE

For screening, see Drug Screen

## PAP SMEAR

Refer to Cytology

## PCO2

**Specimen Requirement:** One 4 ml green top tube or heparinized blood *on ice*. Tube must be properly filled.

**Minimum Volume:** 4 ml

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Hour

## PCP (PHENCYCLIDINE)

For screening, see Drug Screen



# SCRMC LAB SPECIMEN GUIDELINES

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## pH, BLOOD

**Specimen Requirement:** One 4 ml green top tube or heparinized blood *on ice*. Tube must be properly filled.

**Minimum Volume:** 4 ml

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Hour

## pH, FLUIDS

**Specimen Requirement:** Any body fluid

**Minimum Volume:** 2 ml fluid

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day

## PHENOBARBITAL, QUANTITATIVE

**Specimen Requirement:** One 4 ml green top or one 8.5 ml SST tube (marble)

**Minimum Volume:** 3 ml blood

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day

## Phlebotomy

**Specimen Requirement:** One 4 ml purple for CBC or approved CBC report

Pathologist approval needed before procedure

**Minimum Volume:** 1 unit- Must be performed by Technician or Technologist for laboratory

**Patient Preparation:** None- nurse must monitor vital signs before and after procedure

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day

## PHOSPHATASE, ALKALINE

See Alkaline Phosphatase

## PHOSPHORUS, BLOOD

**Specimen Requirement:** One 4 ml green top or one 8.5 ml SST tube (marble)

**Minimum Volume:** 3 ml blood

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day

## PINWORM PREP

**Specimen Requirement:** Request pinworm paddle from Lab. Collect while child is asleep and still, preferably in early a.m. Apply sticky side of paddle to the anus and surrounding area. Place paddle back inside its container.

**Minimum Volume:** NA

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day

## Plasma (FFP)

See Fresh Frozen Plasma

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## PLATELET COUNT

**Specimen Requirement:** One 4 mL EDTA (purple) top or 1 purple microtainer.

**Minimum Volume:** 250 µl (microtainer)

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day or STAT

## PLATELET CONCENTRATE OR PLATELETPHERESIS

**Specimen Requirement:** One pink top tube. See Ident-A-Blood System Section.

**Minimum Volume:** 3 ml

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day

## PO<sub>2</sub>

**Specimen Requirement:** One 4 ml Green top tube or heparinized blood on ice. Tube must be properly filled.

**Minimum Volume:** 4 ml

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Hour

## POSSIBLE TRANSFUSION REACTIONS

**Specimen Requirement:** 7 ml pink top tube (*DO NOT USE SST TUBE*), 3 cc urine. Collect urine specimen and take to Lab with blood transfusion bag with IV set attached (no needles) and sign Report of Transfusion Reaction form. ( In 6 hours collect Bilirubin 4 ml green top or 8.5 marble)

**Minimum Volume:** 5 ml blood, 3 ml urine

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day

## POTASSIUM

**Specimen Requirement:** One 4 ml green top or one 8.5 ml SST tube (marble), avoid hemolysis; see P&T protocol. **Minimum Volume:** 3 ml blood

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day or STAT

## POTASSIUM, RANDOM URINE

**Specimen Requirement:** Random urine specimen. No expected normal range for random specimens.

**Minimum Volume:** 2 ml urine

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day

# SCRMC LAB SPECIMEN GUIDELINES

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## **PREGNANCY TEST, URINE (UCG)**

**Specimen Requirement:** Specimen of choice - First early a.m. urine, 12 cc

**Minimum Volume:** 1 ml

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day or STAT

## **PROPOXYPHENE**

For screening, see Drug Screen

## **PROTEIN TOTAL 24 HR URINE**

**Specimen Requirement:** A 24 hour urine collection

**Minimum Volume:** 24 hour urine collection

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day

## **PROTEIN TOTAL, CSF**

**Specimen Requirement:** 1 cc CSF

**Minimum Volume:** 1 ml

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day

## **PROTEIN TOTAL, FLUIDS**

**Specimen Requirement:** Body fluids, except CSF

**Minimum Volume:** 2 ml

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day

## **PROTEIN/TOTAL SERUM**

**Specimen Requirement:** One 4 ml green top or one 8.5 ml SST tube (marble)

**Minimum Volume:** 3 ml blood

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day

## **PROTHROMBIN TIME (PT)/ PT Mixing Study**

**Specimen Requirement:** One 4.5 ml blue top (let pull to capacity).

**Minimum Volume:** 1.8 ml blue (fill to capacity)

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day

# SCRMC LAB SPECIMEN GUIDELINES

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## PTH, INTEROPERATIVE (PARATHYROID HORMONE INTACT)

**Specimen Requirement:** One 8.5 ml SST tube (marble)

**Minimum Volume:** 3 ml blood

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day

## PT

See Prothombin Time

## PTT

See Activated Partial Thromboplastin Time (APTT)

## PT &APTT MIXING STUDY

**Specimen Requirement:** One 4.5 ml blue top (let pull to capacity).

**Minimum Volume:** 1.8 ml blue (filled to capacity).

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day

## RA LATEX

See Rheumatoid Factor (Latex)

## RENAL PROFILE

**Specimen Requirement:** One 4 ml green top or one 8.5 ml SST tube (marble)

**Minimum Volume:** 3 ml blood

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day

## RETICULOCYTE COUNT

**Specimen Requirement:** One 4 ml purple top tube or one purple microtainer. Test must be performed within 8 hours of collection.

**Minimum Volume:** 250 µl microtainer

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day

## Rh FACTOR

**Specimen Requirement:** One pink top tube, can use purple top. *Do not use SST (marble).*

**Minimum Volume:** 1 ml

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day

# SCRMC LAB SPECIMEN GUIDELINES

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## RhoGAM TESTS, FULL DOSE OR MINI DOSE

**Specimen Requirement:** One pink top tube. *Do not use SST (marble)*; all candidates for RhoGAM get a fetal screen also, per Medical Staff directive.

**Minimum Volume:** 1 ml

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day

## RHEUMATOID FACTOR (LATEX)

**Specimen Requirement:** One 8.5 ml SST tube (marble).

**Minimum Volume:** 1 ml

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day

## RSV VIRUS QUAL (SWAB)

**Specimen Requirement:** Nasopharyngeal swab in 0.7 - 3 ml saline.

**Minimum Volume:** swab or 1 ml washing

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day

## SALICYLATE

**Specimen Requirement:** One 4 ml green top or one 8.5 ml SST tube (marble)

**Minimum Volume:** 3 ml blood

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day

## SED RATE, WESTERGREN (ESR)

**Specimen Requirement:** One 4 ml purple top. *Do not use purple microtainer*; test must be performed within 4 hours of collection.

**Minimum Volume:** 2 ml

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day

## SENSITIVITY

**SEE CULTURES, ID AND SENS ARE DONE ON ALL POSITIVE BACTERIAL CULTURES.**

## SCRMC LAB SPECIMEN GUIDELINES

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### **SGOT AST (ASPARTATE TRANSAMINASE, GOT)**

**Specimen Requirement:** One 4 ml green top or one 8.5 ml SST tube (marble)

**Minimum Volume:** 3 ml blood

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day

### **SGPT ALT (ALANINE TRANSAMINASE, GPT)**

**Specimen Requirement:** One 4 ml green top or one 8.5 ml SST tube (marble)

**Minimum Volume:** 3 ml blood

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day

### **SHIGA Toxin A+B**

**Part of Culture, Stool**

### **SODIUM**

**Specimen Requirement:** One 4 ml green top or one 8.5 ml SST tube (marble)

**Minimum Volume:** 3 ml blood

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day

### **SODIUM, RANDOM URINE**

**Specimen Requirement:** Random urine.

**Minimum Volume:** 2 ml urine

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day

### **SPECIAL STAINS**

**Specimen Requirement:** Surgical or cytological specimens.

**Minimum Volume:** NA

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day

### **SPECIFIC GRAVITY**

**Specimen Requirement:** Random urine specimen - 12 ml

**Minimum Volume:** 1 ml

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day

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## **STOOL**

See individual tests, such as culture, OCP, fecal WBC, etc.

## **STREP A ANTIGEN (THROAT SWAB)**

**Specimen Requirement:** Special swab (Quik Vue - pick up from lab only).

**Minimum Volume:** Swab

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day

## **STREP SCREEN, CULTURE**

**Specimen Requirement:** Throat swab.

**Minimum Volume:** One swab

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** Preliminary report in 24 hours; final report in 48 hours

## **STREPTOCOCCUS GROUP B AG**

**Specimen Requirement:** CSF or one 8.5 ml SST tube (marble)

**Minimum Volume:** 0.4 ml CSF, 1 ml serum

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day

## **STREPTOCOCCUS PNEUMONIAE AG**

**Specimen Requirement:** CSF or one 8.5 ml SST tube (marble)

**Minimum Volume:** 0.4 ml CSF, 1 ml serum

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day

## **T4**

See Free T4

## **TEGRETOL (CARBAMAZEPINE)**

**Specimen Requirement:** One 4 ml green top or one 8.5 ml SST tube (marble)

**Minimum Volume:** 2 ml

**Patient Preparation:** None.

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day

## **THC (MARIJUANA) DRUG SCREEN**

**Specimen Requirement:** See Drug Screen

**Minimum Volume:** 3 ml urine

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day or STAT

## SCRMC LAB SPECIMEN GUIDELINES

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### THEOPHYLLINE (AMINOPHYLLINE)

**Specimen Requirement:** One 4 ml green top or one 8.5 ml SST tube (marble)

**Minimum Volume:** 2 ml

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day

### THROAT CULTURE

**Specimen Requirement:** Swab inflamed area of throat only. Dry swabs will be rejected. See Miscellaneous Bacteriology.

**Minimum Volume:** One swab

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day preliminary; 2 Days final

### THYROID CASCADE (TSH if abnormal T4 Free)

**Specimen Requirement:** One 8.5 ml SST tube (marble) or one 4 ml green top

**Minimum Volume:** 3 ml blood

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day

### TISSUE (PATHOLOGY)

**Specimen Requirement:** Except for frozen sections place in 10% formalin.

**Minimum Volume:** NA

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** Contact Pathology Department

### TOBRAMYCIN - TROUGH, PEAK OR RANDOM

**Specimen Requirement:** One 4 ml green top or one 8.5 ml SST tube (marble)

**Minimum Volume:** 3 ml blood

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day

### TRANSFERRIN

**Specimen Requirement:** One 4 ml green top or one 8.5 ml SST tube (marble). Avoid hemolysis

**Minimum Volume:** 4 ml blood

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day



## SCRMC LAB SPECIMEN GUIDELINES

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### TRANSFERRIN SATURATION (IRON, TIBC, TRANSFERRIN & SATURATION)

**Specimen Requirement:** One 4 ml green top or one 8.5 ml SST tube (marble). Avoid hemolysis

**Minimum Volume:** 4 ml blood

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day

### TRICYCLIC ANTIDEPRESSANTS

For Screening, see Drug Screen.

### TRIGLYCERIDES

**Specimen Requirement:** One 4 ml green top or one 8.5 ml SST tube (marble).

**Minimum Volume:** 3 ml blood

**Patient Preparation:** 12 hour fasting

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day

### TROPONIN I

**Specimen Requirement:** One 4 ml Green top. *Do not use microtainer.*

**Minimum Volume:** 3 ml blood

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day or STAT

### TSH

**Specimen Requirement:** One 8.5 ml SST tube (marble) or one 4 ml green top

**Minimum Volume:** 3 ml blood

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day

### TYLENOL (ACETAMINOPHEN)

**Specimen Requirement:** One 4 ml green top or one 8.5 ml SST tube (marble)

**Minimum Volume:** 3 ml

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day

### TYPE AND SCREEN

**Specimen Requirement:** 7 ml pink top tube. See Ident-A-Blood System Section.

**Minimum Volume:** 2 ml

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day

# SCRMC LAB SPECIMEN GUIDELINES

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## UREA NITROGEN, BLOOD (BUN)

**Specimen Requirement:** One 4 ml green top or one 8.5 ml SST tube (marble)

**Minimum Volume:** 3 ml

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day

## UREA NITROGEN, RANDOM URINE

**Specimen Requirement:** Random urine specimen.

**Minimum Volume:** 5 ml

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day

## URIC ACID

**Specimen Requirement:** One 4 ml green top or one 8.5 ml SST tube (marble)

**Minimum Volume:** 3 ml

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day

## URINALYSIS, ROUTINE (UA)

**Specimen Requirement:** Random urine specimen; 12 ml. Urine specimen should be sent to the lab within one hour of collection.

**Minimum Volume:** 2 ml

**Patient Preparation:** Clean catch instructions are on the box.

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day or STAT

## URINE CULTURE

**Specimen Requirement:** Cath or clean catch urine.

**Minimum Volume:** 1 ml

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** 2 Days

## UROBILINOGEN STRIP (QUALITATIVE)

**Specimen Requirement:** Random urine

**Minimum Volume:** 2 ml

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day

## SCRMC LAB SPECIMEN GUIDELINES

*Version 2014.02.18*

### **VANCOMYCIN, PEAK**

**Specimen Requirement:** One 4 ml green top or one 8.5 ml SST tube (marble)

**Minimum Volume:** 3 ml

**Patient Preparation:** Per protocol

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day

### **VANCOMYCIN, RANDOM**

**Specimen Requirement:** One 4 ml green top or one 8.5 ml SST tube (marble)

**Minimum Volume:** 3 ml

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day.

### **VANCOMYCIN, TROUGH**

**Specimen Requirement:** One 4 ml green top or one 8.5 ml SST tube (marble)

**Minimum Volume:** 3 ml

**Patient Preparation:** Per protocol

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day

### **Vitamin B 12**

**Specimen Requirement:** One 4 ml green top or one 8.5 ml SST tube (marble)

**Minimum Volume:** 2 ml blood

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day

### **WBC, STOOL**

See FECAL LEUKOCYTES

### **WET PREP**

**Specimen Requirement:** Swab should be placed in special tube containing 1-2 ml sterile saline.

**Minimum Volume:** 1 ml

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day

## SCRMC LAB SPECIMEN GUIDELINES

*Version 2014.02.18*

### **WHITE BLOOD COUNT (WBC)**

**Specimen Requirement:** One 4 ml purple top tube or fingerstick purple microtainer.

**Minimum Volume:** 250 µl (microtainer)

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day

### **WHITE BLOOD CELL COUNT with Auto DIFF**

**Specimen Requirement:** One 4 ml purple top tube or fingerstick purple microtainer.

**Minimum Volume:** 250 µl (microtainer)

**Patient Preparation:** None

**Turnaround Time:** 1 Day