

CHEMISTRY SPECIMEN STABILITY CHART
(Serum or Plasma Storage defined is based on spun specimens)

TEST	STABLE AT ROOM TEMP	STABLE AT 2-8°C	STABLE AT -20°C	COMMENTS
ACETAMINOPHEN	8 HRS.	14 DAYS	45 DAYS	
ALBUMIN	8 hours	2 DAYS	6 MONTHS	
ALCOHOL	ASAP	NOT DEFINED	NOT DEFINED	
ALKALINE PHOS	8 HRS	7 DAYS	6 MONTHS	
AMMONIA	20 MIN.	3 HRS	NOT DEFINED	COLLECT ON ICE
AMYLASE	7 DAYS	2 MONTHS	2 MONTHS	
AMYLASE (UR)	7 DAYS	1 MONTH	NOT DEFINED	
BNP	24 HRS.	24 HRS	2 MONTHS	
BNP (whole blood)	7 HOUR	7 HOURS	NONE	
BUN	5 DAYS	7 DAYS	2 MONTHS	
CALCIUM	8 HRS.	2 DAYS	2 MONTHS	
CARBAMAZEPINE	8 HRS.	2 DAYS	2 MONTHS	
CEA	24 HRS	7 DAYS	2 MONTHS	
CHOLESTEROL	8 HRS	2 DAYS	90 DAYS	
CK	4 HRS	5 DAYS	1 MONTH	
CK MMB	12 HRS	2 DAYS	1 MONTH	Assay within one hour of thawing
CORTISOL	24 HRS.	7 DAYS	3 MONTHS	
CREATININE	8 HRS	7 DAYS	2 MONTHS	
CREATININE (UR)	3 DAYS	5 DAYS	2 MONTHS	
DIGOXIN	8 HRS	7 DAYS	2 MONTHS	
DIRECT BILIRUBIN	8 HRS	7 DAYS	8 MONTHS	Protect from light if stored more than 8 hours
ESTRADIOL	24 HRS.	2 DAYS	2 MONTHS	
FERRITIN	8 HRS	7 DAYS	6 MONTHS	
FOLATE	8 HRS.	8 HRS.	2 MONTHS	Refrigerate within 8 hours of draw
FSH	24 HRS	7 DAYS	2 MONTHS	
GENTAMICIN	8 HRS.	2 DAYS	2 MONTHS	
GGTP	8 HRS	2 DAYS	2 MONTHS	
GLUCOSE	8 HRS	3 DAYS	2 MONTHS	
GLUCOSE (CSF)	ASAP	3 DAYS	6 MONTHS	
GOT (AST)	8 HRS	2 DAYS	2 MONTHS	
GPT (ALT)	8 HRS	2 DAYS	NOT DEFINED	
HCG, QUANTITATIVE	24 HRS.	7 DAYS	2 MONTHS	
AHDL	24 HRS.	3 DAYS	3 MONTHS	
HEP B SURFACE ANTIGEN	2 DAYS	3 DAYS	6 MONTHS	
IRON	4 DAYS	7 DAYS	2 MONTHS	
LACTIC ACID	ASAP	24 HRS	1 MONTH	COLLECT ON ICE
LDH	3 DAYS	2 DAYS	NOT DEFINED	
LH	24 HRS	14 DAYS	2 MONTHS	
LIPASE	24 HRS.	7 DAYS	2 MONTHS	
MAGNESIUM	3 DAYS	3 DAYS	1 YEAR	
LITHIUM	24 HRS.	7 DAYS	6 MONTHS	Should be spun within 2 hours of drawing
PHENOBARBITAL	2 DAYS	2 DAYS	3 MONTHS	
PHOSPHORUS	8 HRS.	2 DAYS	2 MONTHS	
PHENYTOIN	1 DAYS	2 DAYS	5 MONTHS	
PSA	24 HRS.	24 HRS.	6 MONTHS	

**For all frozen storage --
Specimens are not routinely kept for these
periods of time without prior request from a physician

CHEMISTRY SPECIMEN STABILITY CHART
(Serum or Plasma Storage defined is based on spun specimens)

TEST	STABLE AT ROOM TEMP	STABLE AT 2-8°C	STABLE AT -20°C	COMMENTS
RUBELLA	24 HRS.	3 DAYS	6 MONTHS	
SALICYLATE	7 DAYS	14 DAYS	6 MONTHS	
T4	7 DAYS	7 DAYS	1 MONTH	
T4 FREE	24 HRS	2 DAYS	2 MONTHS	
TESTOSTERONE	24 HRS	7 DAYS	2 MONTHS	
TOTAL BILIRUBIN	8 HRS	7 DAYS	6 MONTHS	Protect from light if stored more than 8 hours
THEOPHYLLINE	8 HRS.	7 DAYS	3 MONTHS	
TIBC	4 DAYS	7 DAYS	2 MONTHS	
TOTAL PROTEIN	8 HRS	3 DAYS	6 MONTHS	
TOTAL PROTEIN CSF	ASAP	3 DAYS	6 MONTHS	
TOTAL PROTEIN URINE	ASAP	3 DAYS	1 YEAR	
TSH	24 HRS	4 DAYS	3 MONTHS	
TRIGLYCERIDES	8 HRS.	2 DAYS	2 MONTHS	
TROPONIN I	8 HRS	2 DAYS	2 MONTHS	
TU	8 HRS.	2 DAYS	2 MONTHS	
URIC ACID	24 HRS.	5 DAYS	6 MONTHS	
VALPROIC ACID	8 HRS.	2 DAYS	2 MONTHS	
VANCOMYCIN	8 HRS.	2 DAYS	2 MONTHS	
VITAMIN B 12	8 HRS.	8 HRS	2 MONTHS	Refrigerate within 8 hours of draw
NA	7 DAYS	7 DAYS	6 MONTHS	
NA (UR)	ASAP	7 DAYS	6 MONTHS	
K+	7 DAYS	7 DAYS	1 YEAR	
K+ (UR)	ASAP	7 DAYS	6 MONTHS	
CL	7 DAYS	1 MONTH	2 MONTHS	
CL (UR)	ASAP	7 DAYS	2 MONTHS	
ECO2	8 HRS.	2 DAYS	6 MONTHS	
DRUGS OF ABUSE SCREEN	ASAP	2 DAYS	NOT DEFINED	
OSMO-SERUM	8 HRS.	2 DAYS	NOT DEFINED	
OSMO-URINE	ASAP	2 DAYS	NOT DEFINED	

List compiled April, 2010; Revised May, 2010

**For all frozen storage --
 Specimens are not routinely kept for these
 periods of time without prior request from a physician