

Laboratory Service Policy: Result Reporting and Post-Examination Processes

Schedule 3: Delivery Standards — Turn Around Times for Routine Testing

GUIDANCE

Routine Turn Around Times (TAT):

Listed below are the expected turn around times for specific tests when ordered as a **routine** priority and when collected and performed **at the same laboratory**.

- Turn around times will be affected by referral to another site.
- Turn around times are established with a focus on patient centered care, clinical needs, and in consultation with those receiving the reports.
- Consultation with users occurs annually via random feedback or clinician surveys.

STAT Turn Around Times:

- STAT Turn around times are reviewed by the site through STAT TAT reports semi-annually and as part of the annual Regional Quality Management Review.
- Refer to AAPC 0005 S1 Laboratory STAT List and Reporting Standards.

ANATOMIC PATHOLOGY — TAT	
Report Type	Turn Around Time
Cytology Reports	2-5 business days once received at BCCA
Surgical Reports	Refer to D AQA 0003 Anatomical Pathology Quality Assurance Program

HEMATOLOGY TAT — TARGET 90% (from receipt in lab)		
Test		Turn Around Time
Body Fluid Cell Count & Differential Complete Semen Analysis		60 minutes
Complete Blood Count CBC Manual Differential Reticulocytes ESR Malaria Screen	INR PTT Fibrinogen D-Dimer Mononucleosis screen	4–8 hours
Bone Marrow Differential		24–72 hours

HEMATOLOGY TAT — TARGET 90% (from receipt in lab)

Test	Turn Around Time
Autoimmune profile: ANA — Antinuclear Antibody ADNA — Anti-nDNA Autoantibody	3–7 days

CHEMISTRY TAT—TARGET 90% (from receipt in lab)

Test			Turn Around Time
Blood Gas: pH, pO2, pCO2 / Oximetry			10–30 min
Lactate			
Albumin Ammonia Amylase ⁽¹⁾ Bilirubin, Direct Bilirubin, Total Calcium, Ionized Calcium, Total Cholesterol, Total HDL Cholesterol Creatinine Glucose Iron/ TIBC Lipase Magnesium Phosphate Protein, Total iPTH Triglycerides Urea Uric Acid	Electrolytes: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sodium• Potassium• Chloride• CO2 Liver Enzymes: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• ALK• ALT• AST• LDH• GGT Cardiac Enzymes: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Troponin Tor I ⁽²⁾• Troponin Tor I hs• NT-proBNP• CK• CRP hs Alcohol Acetaminophen Salicylate Lithium	Therapeutic Drugs: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Carbamazepine• Phenobarbital• Phenytoin• Valproic Acid• Digoxin• Gentamicin• Tobramycin• Vancomycin• Theophylline Urines: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Microalbumin• Urine Chemistry• Urine Drugs of Abuse• Urine Pregnancy• Urinalysis Osmolality Fetal Fibronectin	6–8 hours (longer if referred within NH)

⁽¹⁾ Test performed at UHNBC only

⁽²⁾ Test performed at facilities using the Roche h232 or AQT90 instruments

CHEMISTRY TAT — TARGET 90% (from receipt in lab)

Test		Turn Around Time
TSH FT ₄ FT ₃ Ferritin Cortisol PTH HCG FSH LH Prolactin Estradiol Progesterone Testosterone PSA Vitamin B ₁₂	HbA1c RF C3 Complement C4 Complement Haptoglobin IGG, IGA, IGM	24–72 hours (longer if referred within NH)
Protein Electrophoresis / Immunofixation		2–7 days

MICROBIOLOGY TAT (from receipt in lab)

Test	Turn Around Time
Gram Stain C. difficile toxin RSV Influenza NAAT	12–24 hours
Throat culture Trichomonas Antigen	1–2 days
Chlamydia/GC NAAT Hepatitis Assays Urine culture MRSA screen	1–3 days
Ova + Parasite Lower Respiratory culture VRE screen Stool culture Aerobic culture (eye, ear, wound, genital)	2–4 days
Group B Strep (prenatal)	3–5 days
Anaerobic culture (tissue, fluid, blood, aspirate)	2 days — preliminary report 5 days — final report
CSF culture	48 hours — preliminary report 4 days — final report

TRANSFUSION MEDICINE TAT (from receipt in lab)

Test	Turn Around Time
RhIG	ASAP, maximum 48 hrs (RhIG to be administered within 72 hrs of sensitizing event)
Group and Screen Crossmatch Rh ₀ (D) Typing DAT — Direct Antiglobulin Test Kleihauer Betke Fetal Bleed Screen	6–8 hours
Cold Agglutinin Screen Antibody Investigation	24–72 hours (if referred within NH)