

Blood Tube Color Chart for specimens submitted to University of Colorado Hospital Laboratory



GOLD or RED W/GEL-SERUM SEPARATOR (SST)		
Test Name	Alt Spec	Add-on
Acute Hepatitis Panel	None	2d
Alpha Feto Protein	None	2d
ANA Screen	None	7d
B19 Parovirus PCR	Lav EDTA	3d
Beta-2-Microglobulin	None	3d
C3	None	8d
C4	None	8d
CA125	None	2d
CA2729	None	5d
CEA	None	2d
Ceruloplasmin	None	3d
Celiac Panel	None	7d
CMV Antibody	None	2d
Cortisol	None	2d
Digoxin	None	2d
dsDNA	None	7d
EBV Antibody	None	2d
Estradiol	None	2d
FSH	None	2d
Haptoglobin	None	7d
HCG Qualitative	None	2d
Hep A Antibody	None	7d
Hep B Core IgM	None	2d
Hep B Core Antibody	None	3d
Hep B Surface Antibody	None	7d
Hep B Surface Antigen	None	7d
Hep C Antibody	None	7d
HIV 1/2 Ab/Ag Screen	None	3d
HSV Antibody	None	7d
Immunofixation Electrophor.	None	7d
Immunoglobulins	None	3d
Insulin	None	1d
Kappa:Lambda Free	None	7d
Luteinizing Hormone (LH)	None	2d
Lithium	None	7d
Mumps IgG	None	9d
Osmolality	Li Hep	5d
PSA	None	1d
Rubeola IgG	None	9d
RPR	None	7d
Serum Protein Electrophor.	None	7d
Syphilis	None	7d
Testosterone	None	7d
Toxoplasma gondii	None	7d
Thyroglobulin	None	2d
Thyroglobulin Antibody	None	2d
Vitamin D25	None	7d
Varicella zoster Antibody	None	7d



RED NO GEL		
Test Name	Alt Spec	Add-on
Ethanol GC	None	7d
Glycols	None	1d
Isopropanol GC	None	7d
Keppra	None	7d
Lamotrigine	None	7d
Lidocaine	None	5d
Methanol GC	None	7d
Mixed Alcohols	None	7d
Pentobarbital	None	7d
Phenytoin free & total	None	7d
Progesterone	None	2d

Alt Spec = Alternative Specimen Container
Add-on = Add-on Stability in days (d) or hours (hrs)
+ = Submit specimens on ice
= Protect specimens from light

Questions? Contact University of Colorado Hospital Clinical Laboratory at 720.848.4401 or visit our Lab Test Catalog in the Source for complete testing information and the most recent version of this chart.

GREEN WITH GEL - LITHIUM HEPARIN (LiHep)		
Test Name	Alt Spec	Add-on
Basic Metabolic Panel	None	3d
Complete Metabolic Panel	None	3d
Electrolyte Panel	None	1d
Hepatic Function Panel	None	3d
Lipid Panel	None	7d
Renal Function Panel	None	3d
Acetaminophen	None	1d
Albumin	None	7d
Alkaline Phosphatase (ALP)	None	4d
ALT	None	3d
Amylase	None	7d
AST	None	7d
B12	SST	2d
Beta-HCG	SST	2d
BHB	None	7d
Bilirubin Direct #	None	3d
Bilirubin Total #	None	3d
BUN	None	7d
CA19-9	None	2d
Calcium	None	7d
Carbamazepine	None	7d
Carbon Dioxide	None	1d
CK	None	12h
CKMB	None	2d
Chloride	None	7d
Cholesterol	None	7d
Creatinine	None	7d
CRP/hsCRP	None	7d
C-Peptide	SST	2d
Ethanol	None	3d
Ferritin	None	2d
Folate #	SST	8hrs
Free T4	None	2d
GGT	None	3d
Gentamicin	None	2d
Glucose	None	3d
HDL	None	5d
Iron Binding Panel	None	2d
LDH	None	2d
LDL	SST	5d
Lipase	None	7d
Magnesium	None	7d
Phenobarbital	None	7d
Phosphorus	None	7d
Potassium	None	7d
Prealbumin	None	7d
Procalcitonin	SST	2d
Protein total	None	7d
PTH	SST	2d
Salicylate	N/A	1d
Sodium	None	7d
Theophylline	None	7d
Tobramycin	None	2d
Transferrin	None	7d
Triglycerides	None	7d
Troponin	None	1d
TSH	SST	7d
Uric Acid	None	5d
Valproic acid	None	7d
Vancocycin	None	8hrs
Vitamin B12	SST	2d



GREEN NO GEL - LITHIUM HEPARIN (LiHep)		
Test Name	Alt Spec	Add-on
Carboxyhemoglobin	NaHep	0.5hr
Electrolytes, Whole Blood	None	0.5hr
Glucose, Whole Blood	NaHep	0.5hr
Ionized Calcium	NaHep	0.5hr
Methemoglobin	NaHep	0.5hr
Lactate, Whole Blood	NaHep	0.5hr
Potassium, Whole Blood	NaHep	0.5hr
Sodium, Whole Blood	None	0.5hr

LAVENDER - EDTA (Lav EDTA)		
Test Name	Alt Spec	Add-on
CBC	None	2d
Blood parasites	None	N/A
CD34	None	1d
Cyclosporine	None	7d
ESR	None	1d
Fetal Hemoglobin	None	6hrs
Hematocrit	None	2d
Hemoglobin	None	2d
Hemoglobin A1c	None	7d
Hemoglobin Electrophoresis	None	7d
Homocysteine +	None	N/A
Plasma Hemoglobin	None	7d
Platelet Count	None	2d
Reticulocyte count	None	2d
Sirolimus	None	7d
Tacrolimus	None	7d



LIGHT BLUE - SODIUM CITRATE		
Test Name	Alt Spec	Add-on
Antithrombin Activity	None	8hrs
APC Resistance	None	4hrs
D-Dimer	None	8hrs
Dilute Thrombin Time	None	8hrs
Fibrinogen	None	8hrs
Euglobulin Lysis Time	None	4hrs
Heparin level	None	2hrs
HIT	None	1hr*
Lupus Anticoagulant Panel	None	4hrs
PTT	None	4hrs
Protein C Activity	None	8hrs
Protein S Free Antigen	None	1hr*
PT	None	8hrs*
Rotem	None	4hrs
RVVT	None	4hrs
Silica Clotting Time	None	4hrs
Specific Factor Activity	None	4hrs
Specific Factor Inhibitor	None	4hrs
TEG	None	2hrs
Thrombin Time	None	8hrs
Von Willebrand Panel	None	4hrs

*Stability periods are for samples at ambient temp.



PINK - EDTA		
Test Name	Alt Spec	Add-on
Blood Bank	None	3d
Adenovirus PCR, Plasma	Lav EDTA	3d
Ammonia +	None	3hrs
BK Virus PCR, Plasma	Lav EDTA	3d
BNP	Lav EDTA	3d
Cytomegalovirus PCR	Lav EDTA	3d
Enterovirus PCR, Plasma	Lav EDTA	2d
EBV PCR	Lav EDTA	3d
HSV PCR	Lav EDTA	3d
HHV6 PCR	Lav EDTA	3d
HHV8 PCR	Lav EDTA	3d
HBV, HCV, HIV by PCR	Lav EDTA	6d



GREEN NO GEL - SODIUM HEPARIN (NaHep)		
Test Name	Alt Spec	Add-on
Blood Culture - Quantitative/	None	None
Pour Plate (submit along with blood culture bottles)		
Flow Cytometry:		
IPLL	Lav EDTA	3d
CD3/CD4 count;	None	24hrs
CD20 Panel; Pre Car T-Cell;	None	24hrs
T-Cell/B-Cell Panel;	None	24hrs
TBNK; Transplant CD3	None	24hrs