

**Laboratory Testing Turn-around Times Policy
 Department of Clinical Laboratories
 The Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center**

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Approval*:
Laboratory Administration Division Director
Laboratory Medical Directors University Hospitals Laboratory Medical Director, University Hospitals East Laboratory Medical Director, Morehouse Laboratory Medical Director, Spielman Laboratory Medical Director, CarePoint East Laboratory Medical Director, CarePoint Lewis Center Laboratory Medical Director, CarePoint Gahanna Laboratory Medical Director, Stoneridge II Laboratory Medical Director, Polaris Laboratory Medical Director, Ackerman Laboratory Medical Director Histology LLC Medical Directors at Doan, East, Morehouse and Chambers Road

Approval and Acknowledgements
Refer to QPulse system and Document Details report for laboratory directors(s)' electronic signature approval, employee acknowledgment and effective date.

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1. POLICY:

Each Clinical Laboratories division will determine result turn-around times for each test. The division director, manager, and/or lead medical technologist are responsible for developing, reviewing, and revising the division specific information at least annually.

In cases where there are unexpected delays in results' availability, client notification will be made by one of the following modalities:

- electronic notification on the clinical information system
- written notification
- telephone notification

2. PURPOSE OF DOCUMENT:

Laboratory test results turn-around times will be defined for each test. In addition, when result availability will not meet specified times, a plan for notification of clients will be described.

3. SCOPE OF DOCUMENT:

This document applies to all areas and personnel in the Clinical Laboratories.

4. RESPONSIBILITY:

The Medical Directors of the Clinical Laboratories are responsible for establishing the *Laboratory Testing Turn-around Times* policy. Laboratory compliance is responsible for maintaining the policy and ensuring at least biennial review.

5. PROCESS – TURN AROUND TIMES

5.1. Turn around times for Clinical Pathology Tests are available in the Test Catalog, available on the Clinical Laboratory Guide to Services Website.

<https://clinicallabs.osumc.edu/Pages/TestCatalog.aspx>

5.1.1. Turn around times for send out testing are dependent on the reference laboratory performing the testing.

5.2. Turn around times for Anatomic Pathology tests are 3-5 days.

5.2.1. *Turnaround time dependent on the need for ancillary studies

6. PROCESS – NOTIFICATION OF TESTING DELAYS:

The following process is used for any testing delays, including those due to unavailable reagents, extended instrument / equipment down times, or significant quality failures (e.g. proficiency testing, quality controls, calibrations).

6.1. Testing personnel: notify manager (or designee) immediately when problems are identified which will delay testing beyond published turn-around time.

6.2. Manager: notify division director(s) immediately when notification of delay by testing personnel is received.

6.3. Division Director and Manager:

6.3.1. Determine corrective action to be taken.

6.3.1.1. Hold specimens until testing is available again; OR

6.3.1.2. Send specimens to back up laboratory or outside reference laboratory.

***OSUWMC labs are always the first choice to reroute samples

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- 6.3.2. Determine whether medical staff (internal and external) should be notified
- 6.3.3. Notify Clinical Laboratories' Operations Directors, Medical Director, and Customer Services' Manager of testing delay and corrective action.
 - 6.3.3.1. Published results availability; turn-around time, when tests were typically run – e.g. daily, weekly, etc.
 - 6.3.3.2. Revised results availability; i.e. turn-around time from Reference Lab and/or anticipated testing re-start date.

- 6.4. Customer Services: when directed
 - 6.4.1. Obtain pending log for the affected test(s)
 - 6.4.2. Notify clients by telephone of the testing delay
 - 6.4.2.1. URL Customer Service notifies outside physician locations, from which specimens for the affected test were received.
 - 6.4.2.2. UH Customer Service notifies inpatient and outpatient physician locations, from which specimens for the affected test were received.
 - 6.4.3. Include revised estimated results availability; i.e. turn-around time from Reference Lab and/or anticipated testing re-start date.

- 6.5. Directors and Medical Director: as needed, distribute written notification and post electronic notification in IHIS or Atlas.

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Test Availability and Turnaround Time

The following tests are performed daily with results available the same day. Priority STAT turnaround times (receipt to result) are listed below.

When the electronic interface between the lab system and the hospital clinical information system (IHIS) is down for an extended period of time, the labs will notify each nursing unit and will generate hard-copy interim reports as needed and will transport them to the units via the pneumatic tube system, or by messenger transport if necessary.

TEST	STAT	TEST	STAT
ABG	60 min.	Cortisol	60 min.
Acetaminophen (Datril®, Temptra®, Tylenol®, Liquiprin®, Tenlap®)	60 min.	CPK	60 min.
		Creatinine (Serum)	60 min.
Acetone	60 min.	CSF Glucose	60 min.
Alanine Amino-transferase (ALT/ SGPT)	60 min.	CSF Protein	60 min.
Albumin, Quantitative, Serum	60 min.	D-Dimer (High Sensitivity, Quantitative)	60 min.
Alcohol (Ethanol) Medical/Legal	60 min.	Digoxin (Lanoxin®)	60 min.
Alcohol, Ethanol, Urine	60 min.	ESR (Westergren)	60 min.
Alcohol, Isopropyl (Serum)	60 min.	Ethanol (Blood)	60 min.
Alcohol, Methyl (Serum)	60 min.	Ferritin	60 min.
Alkaline Phosphatase (Serum)	60 min.	Fetal Fibronectin	60 min.
Amikacin (Amikin®)	60 min.	Fibrinogen Quantitative, Functional (Clottable)	60 min.
Ammonia, Quantitative, Plasma	60 min.	Gentamicin (Garamycin®)	60 min.
Amylase, Serum	60 min.	GGT	60 min.
Aspartate Aminotransferase (AST/SGOT)	60 min.	Glucose	60 min.
Beta HCG, Quantitative	60 min.	Gram Stain, direct examination	60 min.
Bilirubin, Total and Direct or Conjugated	60 min.	HCT	60 min.
Blood Gas (Venous)	60 min.	HGB	60 min.
Blood Urea Nitrogen	60 min.	Influenza A and B Antigen	60 min.
Blood/ Body Fluid Exposure Protocol – Rapid HIV	60 min.	Inorganic Phosphorus	60 min.
BNP	60 min.	INR (International Normalized Ratio)	60 min.
Calcium, Total (Serum)	60 min.	Ionized Calcium	60 min.
Carbamazepine (Tegretol®)	60 min.	Isopropanol	60 min.
Carbon Monoxide	60 min.	Lactic Acid	60 min.
Cell Count, Body Fluids (CSF, Pleural, Peritoneal, Synovial)	60 min.	LD (Lactate Dehydrogenase)	60 min.
Chloride (Serum)	60 min.	Lidocaine	60 min.
Cholesterol, Total	60 min.	Lipase	60 min.
CO ₂ , Total (Serum)	60 min.	Lithium	60 min.
CO ₂ , Whole Blood	60 min.	Lytes	60 min.
Complete Blood Count	60 min.	Magnesium (Serum)	60 min.
Complete Blood Count with Differential	60 min.	Methanol	60 min.

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TEST	STAT	TEST	STAT
Methemoglobin	60 min.	Salicylate (Aspirin)	60 min.
Methotrexate	60 min.	Scalp Ph	60 min.
Mono Test Rapid	60 min.	Sodium, Serum	60 min.
Myoglobin, Qualitative (Urine)	60 min.	Sodium, Whole Blood	60 min.
Occult Blood Gastric	60 min.	Specific Gravity (Urine)	60 min.
Osmolality (Serum)	60 min.	Stool, Occult Blood	60 min.
Osmolality (Urine)	60 min.	<i>Streptococcus pneumoniae</i> , Antigen, urine	60 min.
Partial Thromboplastin Time, Activated (PTT)	60 min.	Testosterone, Total (Serum)	60 min.
Pentobarbital (Nembutal®)	4 hours	Theophylline (aminophylline)	60 min.
Ph	60 min.	Thrombin Time	60 min.
Phenobarbital	60 min.	Tobramycin	60 min.
Phenytoin	60 min.	Total Bilirubin	60 min.
Phenytoin, Free	60 min.	Total Protein, Serum	60 min.
Phosphorus, Inorganic	60 min.	Triiodothyronine	60 min.
Platelet Count	60 min.	Troponin-I	60 min.
Platelet Function Screening Test	60 min.	TSH - 3rd Generation	60 min.
Potassium, Serum	60 min.	Type and Cross	75 min.
Potassium, Whole Blood	60 min.	Uric Acid (Serum)	60 min.
Pregnancy Test (Serum)	60 min.	Urinalysis	60 min.
Pregnancy Test (Urine)	60 min.	Urine 10 Drug Screen	60 min.
Protein, Total (Body Fluid)	60 min.	Urine Screen	60 min.
Prothrombin Time (PT)	60 min.	Valproic Acid	60 min.
PSA	60 min.	Vancomycin	60 min.
Reticulocyte Count	60 min.	Volatile Screen	60 min.
Rohypnol	60 min.	White Cell Count	60 min.

7. Related Documents:

- 7.1. Refer to QPulse System or Document Detail Report for related Laboratory Policies, Procedures, and Master Forms