



Time Limits for Hematology Testing

July 27, 2009

TEST	Room Temperature	Refrigerated
CBC	24 hours	36 hours
ESR in EDTA	4 hours	12 hours
Prothrombin Time (PT)	Centrifuged or uncentrifuged in unopened tube: 24 hours Results may vary over time for patients on anticoagulant therapy	24 hours
PTT (Non-heparinized Patient)	Centrifuged or uncentrifuged in unopened tube: 4 hours	Centrifuge or uncentrifuged in unopened tube: 4 hours
Other Coagulation Tests	4 hours	4 hours
Semen for Fertility	1 hour (30 minutes preferred)	Not acceptable
Urinalysis, Routine	2 hours	24 hours
Urinalysis, Routine with Boric Acid (Boritex)	72 hours	72 hours
Stool for Occult Blood (Slides)	14 days	Not acceptable
Stool for Reducing Substances	2 hours	Not acceptable