

## Corewell Health Reference Laboratory West Preferred Collection Tubes/ Minimum Volumes (quick reference)

This is only a guide and is subject to change. Last reviewed and updated 8/12/2024

Please see [corewellhealth.labcatalog.org](http://corewellhealth.labcatalog.org) for comprehensive and up to date information.

Test Name	Preferred Tube	Also Accept.	Min. Vol (mL)	Preferred tube handling instructions All refrigerated except where noted
Albumin Lvl	Lt Green	Gold	1	Spin within 2 hours
Alk Phos	Lt Green	Gold	1	Spin within 2 hours
ALT	Lt Green	Gold	1	Spin within 2 hours
Ammonia Level	Lavender	N/A	2	***Inpatient hospital draw only. Deliver to lab on ice within 15 min.
Amylase	Lt Green	Gold	1	Spin within 2 hours
AST	Lt Green	Gold	1	Spin within 2 hours
Basic Metabolic Panel	Lt Green	Gold	1	Spin within 2 hours
Bilirubin Total and Direct	Lt Green	Gold	1	Spin within 2 hours   **Protect from light
NT-ProBNP (B Natriuretic Peptide)	Lt Green	N/A	2	Spin & aliquot within 2 hrs   Must be venipuncture
Calcium Level	Lt Green	Gold	1	Spin within 2 hours
Carbamazepine Lvl (Tegretol)	Lt Green	Gold	1	Spin within 2 hours   Indicate last dose
CBC	Lavender	N/A	0.5	Whole Blood EDTA   Ambient- 8 hrs, Refrigerated- 24 hrs
Cholesterol	Lt Green	Gold	1	Spin within 2 hours   *Fasting preferred
CK / CPK	Lt Green	Gold	1	Spin within 2 hours
Complete Metabolic Panel	Lt Green	Gold	2	Spin within 2 hours
Cortisol Level	Lt Green	Gold	1	Spin within 2 hours   Indicate draw time
Creatinine Level	Lt Green	Gold	1	Spin within 2 hours
CRP or CRP Ultrasensitive	Lt Green	Gold	1	Spin within 2 hours
Depakote Level (Valproic)	Lt Green	Gold	1	Spin within 2 hours   Indicate last dose
Digoxin Level (Lanoxin)	Lt Green	Gold	1	Spin within 2 hours   Indicate last dose
Dilantin Level (Phenytoin)	Lt Green	Gold	1	Spin within 2 hours   Indicate last dose
Ferritin	Lt Green	Gold	1	Spin within 2 hours
Fibrinogen	Lt Blue	N/A	F	Fill tube. Spin within 4 hours, freeze plasma in 2 or 3 aliquot tubes
Folate Level (Folic Acid)	Gold	N/A	2	Spin within 2 hours   **Protect from light   *Fasting preferred
Free T4	Lt Green	Gold	1	Spin within 2 hours
FSH	Lt Green	Gold	2	Spin within 2 hours
Gentamicin Level	Lt Green	Gold	1	Spin within 2 hours   Indicate last dose
Glucose Level	Lt Green	Gold	1	Spin within 2 hours
HDL Cholesterol	Lt Green	Gold	1	Spin within 2 hours
Hemoglobin and Hematocrit	Lavender	N/A	1	Whole Blood EDTA
Hepatic Function Panel (Liver)	Lt Green	Gold	2	Spin within 2 hours
Hepatitis Tests or Panel	Gold	N/A	2	Spin within 2 hours
Hemoglobin A1c	Lavender	N/A	1	Whole Blood EDTA
HIV1 HIV2 Antibody/Antigen Screen	Gold	N/A	2	Spin within 2 hours
Immunoglobulin G IgG	Gold	Lt Green	2	Spin within 2 hours
Immunoglobulin A IgA	Gold	Lt Green	2	Spin within 2 hours
Immunoglobulin M IgM	Gold	Lt Green	2	Spin within 2 hours
Ionized Calcium (inpatient)	Green	N/A	1	30 min to lab. Do not spin. No air. No ice. Do not open   Whole Blood
Ionized Calcium (outpatient)	Gold	N/A	2	Spin within 2 hours. Do not expose to air. Do not freeze.
Iron/IBC (% trans saturation)	Lt Green	Gold	2	Spin within 1 hr ( <b>ONE HOUR</b> )
Lead Level	Tan	N/A	2	Do NOT Spin   Whole Blood
Lipase	Lt Green	Gold	1	Spin within 2 hours
Lipid Panel	Lt Green	Gold	2	Spin within 2 hours   *Fasting preferred
Lithium Level	Gold	Red	1	Spin within 4 hours   Indicate last dose
Liver Panel (LFT's)	Lt Green	Gold	2	Spin within 2 hours
Electrolytes (Lytes)	Lt Green	Gold	1	Spin within 2 hours
Magnesium Level	Lt Green	Gold	1	Spin within 2 hours
Osmolality	Lt Green	Gold	1	Spin within 2 hours
Phenobarbital Level	Lt Green	Gold	1	Spin within 2 hours   Indicate last dose
Phenytoin Level (Dilantin)	Lt Green	Gold	1	Spin within 2 hours   Indicate last dose
Phosphorus Level	Lt Green	Gold	1	Spin within 2 hours
Potassium Level	Lt Green	Gold	1	Spin within 2 hours
Prealbumin	Gold	N/A	1	Spin within 2 hours

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Protein Electrophoresis (SPEP)	Gold	N/A	2	Spin within 2 hours   *Fasting preferred
Protein Total	Lt Green	Gold	1	Spin within 2 hours
PSA	Lt Green	Gold	2	Spin within 2 hours
PT/INR Prottime	Lt Blue	N/A	F	Full tube   Platelet Poor Plasma   Ambient unless drawn with PTT
PTH Intact	Gold	N/A	2	Spin within 2 hours
PTT/APTT	Lt Blue	N/A	F	Full tube   Spin within 4 hrs, aliquot and freeze in 2 or 3 tubes.
Retic Count with Retic Hemoglobin	Lavender	N/A	1	Whole Blood EDTA
Syphilis Total	Gold	N/A	1	Spin within 2 hours
Sed Rate	Lavender	N/A	1	Refrigerate up to 24 hours   Whole Blood EDTA
Sodium Level	Lt Green	Gold	1	Spin within 2 hours
Theophylline Level	Lt Green	Gold	1	Spin within 2 hours   Indicate last dose
Tobramycin Level	Lt Green	Gold	1	Spin within 2 hours   Indicate last dose
Transferrin	Lt Green	Gold	1	Spin within 2 hours
Triglycerides	Lt Green	Gold	1	Spin within 2 hours   *Fasting preferred
Troponin T	Lt Green	N/A	2	Spin within 2 hours   Must be Venipuncture
TSH	Lt Green	Gold	1	Spin within 2 hours
Type and Screen	Pink	Lav	2	<b>Follow required guidelines- refer to Lab Catalog for details</b>
Urea Nitrogen (BUN)	Lt Green	Gold	1	Spin within 2 hours
Uric Acid	Lt Green	Gold	1	Spin within 2 hours
Valproic Acid (Depakote)	Lt Green	Gold	1	Spin within 2 hours   Indicate last dose
Vancomycin Level	Red	N/A	1	Spin within 2 hours   aliquot -plastic vial   Indicate last dose
Vitamin B12 Level	Gold	N/A	2	Spin within 2 hours   *Fasting preferred   **Protect from light
Vitamin D 25 Hydroxyvitamin	Gold	N/A	2	Spin within 2 hours
Zinc	Blue	N/A	2	Separate serum and RBCs ASAP. Royal Blue tube has red stripe label.

Lt Green = Mint Green Top, Lithium Heparin Gel - For best specimen integrity, these tubes should be spun within 2 hours of collection

Gold = Gold Top, Serum Separator - SST Gel - Allow specimen to clot for 30 minutes and centrifuge within 2 hours of collection

Red = Red Top, No Additive

Royal Blue = Blue Top, Trace element, no additive, plastic tube with red vertical stripe on label - See catalog for collection

Tan = Tan Top, K2 EDTA - Lead Free

Pink = Pink Top, EDTA

Lavender = Lavender top, EDTA

Lt Blue = Sodium Citrate 2.7 mL or 1.8 mL. Tube must be full to the line. See lab catalog for preparing platelet poor plasma.

\*Fasting preferred but not required: 8 - 12 hours. No food, drink (other than water), smoking, chewing gum, candy, cough drops, etc.

\*\*Protect from light: Use foil wrapping or amber aliquot/pour-over tubes.

<http://corewellhealth.testcatalog.org/>