

Hours of Operation and Departmental Considerations

Automated Laboratory

Following are collection and ordering times for chemistry testing:

- Chemistry profiles and cardiac enzymes are routinely collected and performed 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.
- Therapeutic drugs are collected as ordered.
- Results for routine testing are available within 2 to 3 hours of receipt in the lab.
- In the event of an acute medical emergency requiring a therapeutic drug result when there is not a scheduled run, the test should be requested STAT. The test will be collected, performed, and reported STAT.
- Some tests are batched and performed only once a day, Monday through Friday, or only on select days each week. Examples are: Electrophoresis tests, Hepatitis tests, Antinuclear Antibodies (ANA), Rapid Plasma Reagin (RPR), HIV, special Coagulation tests, and Flow Cytometry.

Blood Bank

Following are collection and ordering times for blood bank testing:

- The Blood Bank is staffed continuously for emergency crossmatches.
- Routine crossmatches and Blood Bank procedures should be ordered during the day time shift (7 a.m.-3 p.m.) whenever possible.
- Crossmatch orders for elective surgery should be requested **1 day** prior to surgery. This includes scheduled open heart surgeries.

Microbiology

Following are collection and ordering times for microbiology testing:

- Cultures are received in Microbiology 24 hours a day.
- STAT microbiologic procedures are available continuously and include blood culture, body fluid Gram stain, etc.

Histology

Following are collection and ordering times for histology testing at **Huntsville Hospital** :

- Routine procedures and frozen sections are available Monday through Friday, 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. Pathologist on call must be contacted if procedure is required after these hours.

- After 5 p.m. Monday through Friday, weekends, and holidays, leave surgical specimens at the main desk in the hands of the laboratory supervisor.

Following are collection and ordering times for histology testing at **Madison Hospital**

- Frozen sections are available Monday through Friday, 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. Pathologist must be contacted 1 hour prior to scheduled case.
- After 5 p.m. Monday through Friday, weekends, and holidays, the pathologist on call must be contacted.
- All surgical specimens are to be brought to the laboratory.