



## North Mississippi Medical Center

Pathology Department  
01.LAB.7020.0031.0316

Policy #:

### Title: Test Collection Protocols

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**Rationale:** Test collection protocols are needed to define time frames for specimen collection.

**Policy:** The following is a listing of test collection protocols:

1. STAT: Collected immediately.
2. Time Critical: Collected as close to ordered time as possible but no more than 30 minutes before or 30 minutes after. **Exception:** Trough and Peak Drug Levels have specified collection times. Refer to the Therapeutic Drug Monitoring Recommended Collection Times policy in Pathology's Directory of Services.
3. Now: Collected within one hour of order time.
4. Chart by "Specified Time":

NOTE: The Pathology Department will make available results on the chart by "specified time" for the following tests:

CBC (and components), PT, PTT, Heparin Xa, Fibrinogen, Retics, DIC Profile, Basic Chemistry Profiles and their components (Basic Metabolic, Comprehensive, Electrolyte, Hepatic Function, Renal), Magnesium, Phosphorus, Amylase, Lipase, Triglyceride, C-Reactive Protein, Cardiac Function Tests, Therapeutic Drug Monitoring Tests, Urinalysis

Chart by 0600: Collected after 0330 and resulted by 0600  
Chart by 0700: Collected after 0400 and resulted by 0700  
Chart by 0800: Collected after 0600 and resulted by 0800

For other specified chart by times, specimens will be drawn within a 2 hour window before the designated chart by time.

5. AM Lab Draw: Will be drawn after 0600 and before 1200.
6. PM Lab Draw: Will be drawn after 1200 and before 1900.
7. Evening Lab Draw: Will be drawn after 1900 and before 2200.
8. Routine: Will be drawn within 6 hours of order.