

 <p>central peninsula hospital 250 Hospital Place Soldotna, AK 99669</p>	<b>POLICY TITLE:</b> Stat Test List with Expected Turn Around Times	<b>DEPARTMENT:</b> Laboratory <b>CATEGORY:</b> Laboratory Services <b>SECTION:</b> General Laboratory
	<b>POLICY NUMBER:</b> LAB.700.040	<b>EFFECTIVE DATE:</b> October 2023 <b>Original Date of Policy:</b> GL-128 - 4/90
	<b>AUTHORIZED BY:</b> Laboratory, Medical Director	<b>Revised:</b> LAB.700.040– 8/15; 9/20, 4/22, 10/23 (GL-128 - 6/95, 4/97, 12/01, 5/03, 8/03, 12/07, 3/08, 1/10, 7/13, 1/15) <b>Reviewed:</b> LAB.700.040 – 8/16; (GL-128 - 6/95, 4/97, 12/01, 5/03, 8/03, 12/07, 3/08, 1/10, 7/13, 1/15, 8/15, 1/17, 10/17, 1/19, 2/20, 11/21, 4/23)

**APPLIES TO:** Guidelines for ordering lab tests

**RESPONSIBILITY:** All staff involved in the ordering process of laboratory tests, Lab employees

**DEFINITIONS:** **STAT** – *This priority should be used for life threatening and critical circumstances.* A STAT test is a test that takes priority over all other laboratory work because its result determines the need to initiate, change, or discontinue therapy or medical conduct. When ordered STAT, test results are essential for immediate medical decision making on behalf of the patient: an action, a diagnosis, or a prognosis. There is no additional charge for STAT tests.

**ROUTINE** – This is the category for most inpatient testing, as well as most outpatient clinical lab assessments.

**TIMED DRAW** - For tests ordered to be collected at a specific time, the lab orders will indicate a “time of draw” time.

**Turn-Around-Time (TAT)** - For tests prioritized ROUTINE, the laboratory TAT is defined from time of receipt of a specimen for testing in any part of the laboratory to the time when results are available for the practitioner. For STAT testing ordered from the Emergency Department, the laboratory TAT is defined from the time the order is placed to the time the results are available for the practitioner.

**POLICY:** The practitioner is the only individual who is authorized to prioritize a lab test. The priority should be placed with the orders next to each individual lab test. (i.e. A CBC might be needed STAT, but a urine analysis is rarely needed on a STAT basis and therefore a CBC might be ordered STAT and the UA would be ordered routine)

If no priority level is submitted with the order, the test will be considered a routine test, except in the Emergency Department where the order will be assumed to be STAT.

Test priorities are indicated on the order so that the laboratory personnel can respond appropriately and prioritize testing to meet the needs of the patient and physician.

**PROCEDURE:** **Goals:**

1. It is the goal of the laboratory that 99% of all STAT tests will be reported within one hour of the test order placed within the computer system. Eighty percent (80%) should be completed in 45 minutes.
2. Routine tests, that are performed inhouse will usually be completed within 4 hours; some may take longer.
3. Significant delays in testing - 30+ minutes beyond the expected TAT, will be communicated to the ordering provider on a case by case basis.

**STAT tests** are as follows:

1. CBC or any CBC component excluding a manual differential
2. PT, PTT, D-DIMER and Fibrinogen
3. Gram Stain
4. Type and screen, Crossmatch (immediate spin)

*Note: if any discrepancies arise or an antibody is detected, the testing will take considerably longer.*

5. Chemistry tests – emphasis is placed on Electrolytes, Glucose, Calcium, Creatinine, Amylase and Lipase.
6. Cardiac tests: CK, Troponin, and CK-MB
7. Arterial blood gases and Carboxyhemoglobin levels.
8. CSF workup.
9. Beta HCG – qualitative.
10. UA dipstick.
11. Toxic drug levels – if the patient is suspected of being toxic. Only limited testing is available: such as alcohol, salicylates, acetaminophen, digoxin, etc.
12. Serum Osmolality

Most tests available in-house can be ordered with a STAT priority. Referral tests are not STAT. They are ordered ROUTINE.

**Changing a routine test to a STAT test**

Call lab directly. Lab staff member will change the test to the new priority.

**Reporting Results:**

Results will be available in the computer when the test result is final verified. Results are not routinely printed.

**REVISION**

**RESPONSIBILITY:** Administrative Director of Laboratory and/or designee(s)

**REFERENCES:** N/A