

Testing Priorities

The laboratory has established guidelines for the expected completion of laboratory testing based on the ordering priority and a consistent policy for notifying the appropriate caregivers when significant delays in completing laboratory testing exist or are anticipated.

1. CHI Health Laboratory tests may be ordered with the following priorities:
 - a. Routine
 - b. STAT
2. Testing ordered STAT will be given special consideration due to the emergency situation to the patient.
3. When a test is ordered STAT by the provider, please indicate the priority (STAT) on the requisition or in EPIC.
4. If a courier pickup is needed, please go to MedSpeed's online portal and place an order. We offer the following options for courier pickup service:
 - a. 1 hour pickup - specimen will be picked up and delivered to the laboratory within one hour plus or minus 10 minutes.
 - b. 1 ½ hour pickup - specimen will be picked up and delivered to the laboratory within 1 ½ hours plus or minus 10 minutes.
 - c. Routine pickup - specimen will be picked up and delivered to the laboratory within 8 hours plus or minus 10 minutes.
5. Results will **not** be automatically called when you order a STAT test. If you need the results called or faxed, please indicate this on the requisition or lab order summary (EPIC) and provide a phone number or fax number.
6. In the event that a significant delay (which is defined as 50% longer than expected times) is anticipated, the provider or caregiver will be notified by the CHI Health Laboratory. Examples of reasons for delay in testing might include;
 - a. Specimen unacceptable - hemolysis, clotted...
 - b. Specimen needs to be redrawn
 - c. Additional processing required - ultrafuge, dilution...
 - d. Additional time is needed to complete testing - alternative method, additional testing needed to verify result.