

**CONWAY REGIONAL HEALTH SYSTEM
CLINICAL LABORATORY**

Turn Around Time Guidelines

PURPOSE

To establish general expectations for the length of time required for the Laboratory to report laboratory results for the various priority codes of testing.

POLICY

The Turn-Around-Time guidelines listed below represent the amount of time within which test results performed in-house can normally be expected after a proper order and specimen is received in the Lab, assuming adequate lab staffing, uncomplicated access to the patient and specimen collection, normal instrument function, and no other unusual interference from other Lab work of equal or greater urgency. Tests that are not on the approved list of tests that can be ordered STAT are not subject to these guidelines. Esoteric requests in Blood Bank will not meet stated guidelines.

Turn-Around Time Guidelines:

STAT: 30 minutes or less for all tests other than Blood Bank
60 minutes or less for Blood Bank

NOTE: See policy on Emergency Release of
Uncrossmatched Blood

NOW/ASAP: 60 minutes or less

Routine/Today/Tomorrow/Future:

4 hours or less from collection time
Morning draw to be completed no later than 0730

Timed: 60 minutes or less from collection time

Timed tests are to be collected within 30 minutes before or 15 minutes after the time specified. Therapeutic drugs are to be collected within 10 minutes before or after time specified.

PREPARED BY: Marianne S. Welch 03/28/05

APPROVED BY: _____ DATE _____
(Medical Director)

APPROVED BY: _____ DATE _____
(Clinical Director)