

CHILDLAB

Guide to Laboratory Services

URINE – 24 HOUR COLLECTIONS

I. GENERAL CONSIDERATIONS:

In order to measure total amount of solutes excreted in a 24- hour period, a 24 hour urine collection is required.

II. SPECIMEN COLLECTION:

A. 24- HOUR

- (1) The following materials are needed for a 24 hour collection:
 - 24 hour urine collection container
 - Urine collection “hat” or other collection container
- (2) The patient should empty his/ her bladder at the start of the 24 hour period. This sample is not included in the 24 hour collection urine but does signify the start time.
- (3) Document the start date and time on the 24 hour collection container.
- (4) Collect all voided urines from the start time until the end time.
- (5) Each urine collection should be collected in the urine collection “hat” and the total contents poured into the 24 hour urine collection container.
- (6) The 24 hour urine collection container **MUST** be refrigerated during the complete collection time.
- (7) The last sample collection should be collected at exactly the 24 hour end time. This last sample should be added to the 24 hour collection container, and the end date and time documented on the 24 hour collection container.