

## Therapeutic Drug Level Monitoring

### FAQ:

- ❖ True minimum blood volume needed for all tests is **0.25 ml per time point, per drug**. This should yield just over 100 mcl plasma.
- ❖ Frozen specimen (-40° standard freezer or colder) will remain **stable for up to 31 days**.
- ❖ Have multiple drugs but different draw times required? **Adjust the times of the doses, at least for the blood collection day, to minimize venipunctures**.
- ❖ Serum separating tubes (**SST**) are **not acceptable (gold top, zebra top, or any tube with gel)**. Serum separating agents interfere with testing.
- ❖ **Plain red top or green top tubes with heparin (sodium or lithium heparin) are preferred**.

### TO PREVENT DELAYS:

- ❖ YOUR FACILITY'S NAME AND CONTACT INFORMATION MUST BE ON THE REQUISITION!
- ❖ Ship Monday-Wednesday only to avoid shipping issues. Our loading dock and lab are closed on weekends.
- ❖ Fill out the requisition IN FULL paying special attention to the box labeled "REQUIRED".
- ❖ Send ALL patient samples together in one shipment\*\*
- ❖ Our preferred carrier is FedEx as they reliably deliver directly to our lab. Other carriers may only deliver to the loading dock, and we might not be notified on a timely basis.

**\*\*Please send patient samples for multiple time points together whenever possible. This allows our team to see your patient's information as a whole and make any recommendations for dose adjustments. BONUS – Samples get more time to freeze, and you PAY for overnight shipping only ONCE!**