

**Major Changes to MGH Core/Chemistry Serum Comprehensive Toxicology Testing Effective December 1, 2015**

The following changes will be implemented on Tuesday December 1, 2015 at 1 PM:

1) Comprehensive serum toxicology testing will no longer be performed 24/7 but will be done 7 days/week on the day shift only. Emergency department 24/7 toxicology testing will be comprised of newly implemented automated assays for ethanol, acetaminophen, salicylates, tricyclics, and existing 7 part urine toxicology testing. For the new testing a single 3 ml Green top tube is required.

2) For outpatient areas that may occasionally use serum comprehensive toxicology testing the changes to the current 5 panel comprehensive toxicology screen are outlined below:

Panel 1: Replaced by an automated assay for ethanol. Requires 3 ml green/gel tube.

Panel 2: Replaced by automated assays for acetaminophen and salicylates. Requires 3 ml green/gel tube.

Panel 3 (Anticonvulsants, Barbiturates): No changes to panel. Performed day shift only. Requires 10 ml Red top tube.

Panel 4 (Benzodiazepines, Lidocaine): No changes to panel. Performed day shift only. Requires 10 ml Red top tube.

Panel 5 (Antidepressants, Stimulants, Opioids, many others): No changes to panel. Performed day shift only. Requires 10 ml Red top tube.

If all five panels are requested one 3 ml Green/gel tube and one 10 ml Red top tube are required.

3) Serum testing for volatile alcohols (isopropanol, methanol) will no longer be done in house but will be performed at Mayo Medical Labs in Andover, MA. Mayo provides 24/7 availability for this testing with a turnaround time of 6-10 hours.

For questions about these changes please contact Dr. James Flood or Dr. Anand Dighe.

Test Group #	Alternate Name	Current Test Menu Summary	Menu Changes?	Specimen Changes?	Coverage Changes?
1	Volatile Alcohols	Ethanol Isopropanol Methanol	Yes Ethanol testing continues at MGH <sup>1</sup>	Yes One 3 ml green/gel tube <sup>2</sup>	No
2	A/S, ALS, ATS, Analgesics	Acetaminophen Salicylate	No	Yes One 3 ml green/gel tube <sup>2</sup>	No
3	BBT, Barbs	Anticonvulsants,	No	No	Yes <sup>3</sup>

		Barbiturates			
4	Benzos	Benzodiazepines, Lidocaine	No	No	Yes <sup>3</sup>
5	Basic Drugs, TCAs	Antidepressants, Stimulants, Opioids, many others	No	No	Yes <sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Specific requests for serum Isopropanol and Methanol testing require a separate order/requisition and will be sent to Mayo Medical Labs in Andover. A separate 10 ml red top is required, and turnaround time will be 6-10 hours.

<sup>2</sup> Only one green/gel tube will be needed to perform both Group 1 and 2 testing effective December 1.

<sup>3</sup> Testing will only be performed on the day shift, seven days a week. Samples received after 1 PM will not be tested until the next day.