

## Add on further tests and factors affecting the performance of tests

### Chemistry/Haematology – Adding on Further Tests

Specimens for routine biochemistry are stored for a minimum of 6 calendar days, after this period there is no guarantee that the sample will be available to add extra tests and may not be suitable for all assays. If the specimen is greater than 2 days old - please contact the laboratory (Biochemistry BMS or Consultant Chemical Pathologist) to check whether the sample is suitable for further additional analysis.

Add-on tests can be requested either by email or by telephone. Email address for requesting add-ons is: [GPPathologyAddon@SomersetFT.nhs.uk](mailto:GPPathologyAddon@SomersetFT.nhs.uk)

Please note this email address is manned Monday - Friday, 8.30am to 5.00pm (excluding Bank Holidays). Any requests sent out of this time may not be added due to sample stability.

Specimens for routine haematology are only stable for 24 hours and are kept for up to 48 hrs following analysis. Specimens for routine coagulation are only stable for 4-6 hours and are discarded at the start of next day following analysis

### Factors affecting the performance of tests

Haemolysis and/or lipaemia may affect results - An appropriate laboratory comment will be made on the final report if present at significant levels.

### Immunology – Adding on Further Tests

Samples for immunology investigations are generally stored for up to 1 month following analysis. Routine clotted specimens are stored for a minimum of 6 calendar days, after this period there is no guarantee that the sample will be available to add extra immunology tests and may not be suitable for all assays

### Factors affecting the performance of tests in Immunology

Haemolysis and/or lipaemia may affect Immunology results - An appropriate laboratory comment will be made on the final report if present at significant levels