

<b>TEST</b>	Prothrombin Time
<b>SYNONYM/S</b>	PT, INR, PTPA (obsolete name)
<b>LAB SECTION</b>	Hematology/ Coagulation Section (Main Lab)
<b>AVAILABILITY</b>	Daily (24 hours)
<b>TURN AROUND TIME (TAT) (upon receipt of the laboratory)</b>	STAT : within 2 hours Routine : within 4 hours
<b>PATIENT PREPARATION</b>	None
<b>SPECIMEN</b>	Plasma
<b>VOLUME OF SPECIMEN</b>	5 ml whole blood
<b>CONTAINER</b>	Blue top tube (3.2% Citrate)
<b>CAUSES OF REJECTION</b>	Specimen quantity is not sufficient for analysis (under filled/overfilled tube by more than +/- 10%) Specimen collected in blue top tube (3.8% Citrate) Specimen collected through lines previously flushed with heparin. Specimen (with hematocrit > 55%) collected WITHOUT citrate adjustment. Specimen is hemolyzed, lipemic, icteric or with clots. Specimens not accompanied by test request and not properly labeled and with deficient clinical information.
<b>COLLECTION &amp; TRANSPORT</b>	Collect blood by venipuncture. If through available lines, discard first 5 ml. Use appropriate collection tubes for pediatric patients (1.8 ml or 2.7 ml) When hematocrit is 55% and above (inquire at Laboratory for adjustment of citrate). Label & indicate date / time of collection. Maintain transport temperature at 18-28 °C. Transport to the laboratory as soon as possible.
<b>SPECIMEN STABILITY AND STORAGE</b>	12 hours at ambient temperature (18°C to 24°C)
<b>METHODOLOGY</b>	Nephelometry
<b>ADDITIONAL INFORMATION</b>	For point of care test in ER POCT Satellite Lab/Critical Care Satellite Lab specimen is whole blood and testing is performed at bedside.