

CLIENT BULLETIN

August 13, 2008


Donald R. Simpson, M.D, PhD.

Effective August 11, 2008, and with our continuing commitment to patient care, Pacific Toxicology is pleased to announce the addition of two new tests to our test menu: Prothrombin Time (PT) with an International Normalized Ratio (INR) and Activated Partial Thromboplastin Time (PTT or APTT). Tests can be ordered individually or as a panel. Contact Client Services for custom panel setup.

* * * * *

| Test Code | Test Name | Method | Reference Range | Turnaround Time | CPT Code |
|-----------|-------------------|----------------|--------------------|-----------------|----------|
| 1300 | PT with INR | Clot Formation | INR: 0.7-1.2 Ratio | 12 hours | 85610 |
| 1305 | PTT or APTT | Clot Formation | 23 – 34 Seconds | 12 hours | 85730 |
| 1306 | PT with INR & PTT | Clot Formation | See above | 12 hours | |

| Test Name | Specimen Requirements | Stability |
|-------------|---|---|
| PT with INR | Whole blood is collected in 3.8% sodium citrate vacutainer (light blue tube). Specimens that are clotted, hemolyzed, collected in wrong tube, or have less than 90% filled collection tube should be unacceptable and rejected. Specimens should be centrifuged at 2,500 - 3,000 rpm for at least 15 minutes . | Less than 8 hours - plasma may remain on packed cells. Greater than 8 hours - plasma should be frozen. To transfer plasma use clean non-wettable pipette. Sample is transferred to a clean container with a non-wettable surface. |
| PTT or APTT | Whole blood is collected in 3.8% sodium citrate vacutainer (light blue tube). Specimens that are clotted, hemolyzed, collected in wrong tube, or have less than 90% filled collection tube should be unacceptable and rejected. Specimens should be centrifuged at 2,500 - 3,000 rpm for at least 15 minutes . | Less than 8 hours - plasma may remain on packed cells. Greater than 8 hours - plasma should be frozen. To transfer plasma use clean non-wettable pipette. Sample is transferred to a clean container with a non-wettable surface. |



Donald R. Simpson, MD, PhD
Medical Director
Pacific Toxicology Laboratories