THERAPEUTIC DRUG LEVEL COLLECTION TIMES

Accurate timing in the administration of a drug and collection of the blood sample are of utmost importance in therapeutic drug monitoring. Blood samples should be taken in a steady state after treatment with a constant dose. Samples are usually drawn to coincide with the maximum peak concentration and/or immediately before the next dose.

Therapeutic Drug	Suggested Collection Interval

Acetaminophen 1 hr after dose

Salicylate 1-3 hrs after dose

Theophylline 2 hrs after dose of short acting for peak

4 hrs after dose of long acting for peak immediately before dose for trough

Carbamazepine (sendout) immediately before dose for trough

Phenobarbital (sendout) time to dose not important, time should

be consistent each sampling

Phenytoin time to dose not important, time should

be consistent each sampling

Primidone (sendout) immediately prior to dose

Valproic Acid immediately prior to dose

Vancomycin 1 hour before 4th dose

Digoxin 6-8 hrs after dose

Gentamicin 0.5 to 1 hr after 30 minute infusion

1hr after IM dose