

# Inpatient Instructions for 24-Hour Urine Collection

To ensure accurate testing of 24 hour urines, the instructions below should be followed

**CAUTION:** Some 24 hour containers have caustic compounds and must not touch skin. Extreme care must be taken.

1. It is recommended that the urine collection begin after the first morning void. Keep urine in a cold (not freezing) area. The refrigerator works well for this.
2. When ready to begin collection, the patient should empty his/her bladder without saving the urine. The date and time of this void should be recorded as the **COLLECTION START** date and time on the **COLLECTION RECORD**.
3. The next morning (or exactly 24 hours after the test was started) the patient should empty his/her bladder and save the urine in the jug, indicating the date and time. This completes the urine collection.
4. The complete urine collection volume should be delivered on the same day it is completed, to the Clinical Laboratory.

Tests	Preservative/Handling
Amylase Osmolality pH Electrolytes Phosphorus Glucose Electrophoresis Protein, Magnesium Urea Nitrogen Microalbumin Uric Acid Sodium/Potassium	No preservative required  Refrigerate during collection  HCl or Boric Acid NOT acceptable
Calcium, Catecholamines, Metanephrines, VMA	HCl required, may be added after collection in the laboratory (1mL 6N HCl per 100 mL urine). Refrigerate during collection.
Creatinine Creatinine Clearance	No preservative required, refrigerate during collection  HCl or Boric Acid acceptable
Porphobilinogen Porphyrin Screen	Sodium Carbonate (0.5 g per 100 mL urine). Refrigerate and protect from light during collection.