

## SPINAL FLUID COLLECTIONS

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Spinal fluid protocols are established to ensure the quality of laboratory results are not compromised by preanalytical factors. Due to the impact of these preanalytical factors, delivery of spinal fluid samples to the laboratory should be within 2 (two) hours of collection. This protocol assures that all tests requested on a spinal fluid sample are performed in an immediate fashion.

### TRANSPORT INFORMATION

Deliver a spinal fluid sample immediately to the laboratory. Do not refrigerate.

All samples must be signed into the laboratory by the person delivering the sample.

Collection Time and Date must be documented in the electronic record by the collector.

NOTE:

If a specimen is not received within 2 hours of collection, the following statement will appear in the report:

**ELECTRONIC RECORDS INDICATE RECOMMENDED TIME INTERVAL BETWEEN COLLECTION AND RECEIPT EXCEEDED. INTERPRET RESULTS WITH CAUTION.**

If this caption appears on a result, that result must be made available for review by CLIA and CAP as a failure of regulatory standards.