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TUBE TYPE		STORAGE DURING WORKING HOURS i.e. if sample collected prior to same day lab van pick up	STORAGE IN INCIDENCE OF DELAYED TRANSPORT i.e. if sample not transported to the lab on same day
	Serum gel (brown top) and lithium heparin (orange top)	ROOM TEMPERATURE (NB: If refrigerated in error this will lead to inaccurate potassium results – please notify duty biochemist via email at loth.biochemadvice@nhs.scot if this happens)	REFRIGERATE
			
	Citrate (green top)	ROOM TEMPERATURE	ROOM TEMPERATURE
	Fluoride EDTA (yellow top)	REFRIGERATE or ROOM TEMPERATURE	REFRIGERATE
	Potassium EDTA (red top)	REFRIGERATE or ROOM TEMPERATURE	REFRIGERATE
	Urine testing - urine culture only	REFRIGERATE or ROOM TEMPERATURE FOR MAXIMUM 72 HOURS	REFRIGERATE
	Urine testing – all other urine tests	REFRIGERATE	REFRIGERATE
	Swab testing – Chlamydia / Gonorrhoea testing only Label: MC00000X	REFRIGERATE or ROOM TEMPERATURE	REFRIGERATE
	Bacteriology swabs Label: MG00000X	REFRIGERATE	REFRIGERATE
	Virology swabs – inactivating Molecular Sampling Solution (MSS) Examples: [Nose & Throat Swab (NTS) / Nasal Swab (NS) / Throat Swab (TS) / Eye swab / Vesicle swab / Skin swab / External Genital Swab (EGS)]	REFRIGERATE	REFRIGERATE
	Stool samples	REFRIGERATE	REFRIGERATE
	Sputum	REFRIGERATE	REFRIGERATE
	Mycology nail clippings	ROOM TEMPERATURE	ROOM TEMPERATURE

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