

## DIGOXIN

### WHAT THIS TEST IS FOR.

Your doctor has prescribed the heart medication digoxin for you and has ordered laboratory tests to check how the drug is working.

### WHAT ELSE YOU SHOULD KNOW.

If the test results are to be useful to your doctor, the test should be performed more than 6 hours after your last dose of digoxin.

### WHAT YOU CAN DO TO HELP.

**Write down the time you took your last dose of digoxin.** Tell the laboratory staff when you took your last dose. They will record the time for your doctor.

**Always come to the laboratory at least 6 hours after your last dose.** Ask your doctor about taking digoxin in the evening. Then you can come to the laboratory the next morning - more than 6 hours after your last dose.

**Try to come to the laboratory at the same time of day whenever the test is repeated.** This allows a better comparison with your previous test results.

By following these simple steps, you can avoid unnecessary repeat visits to the laboratory and help us make better use of scarce health care resources.