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Stability of creatinine, urea and uric acid in urine stored under various conditions.

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Urine was stored (i) frozen (at -15°), (ii) HCl-treated and frozen or (iii) thymol-treated and frozen for up to 7 days. Creatinine was determined by a method based on the Jaffe reaction, urea by the biacetyl monoxime method and uric acid with tungstophosphoric acid. Creatinine was stable for 24 h when urine was frozen with or without thymol, urea was stable under all conditions for up to 7 days and uric acid was stable for up to 3 days in samples frozen with or without thymol. Neither uric acid nor creatinine was stable even for 24 h in acidified frozen samples