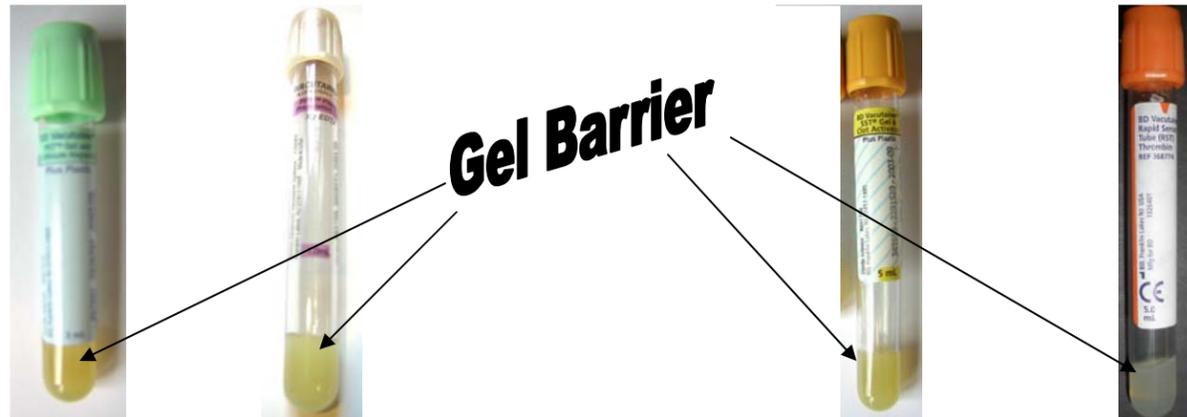


IU Health Pathology Laboratory



Centrifuge All Lt Green, Pearl, Gold & Orange Tubes



LT GREEN & PEARL
Invert 8-10 times

Spin 10-15 min

GOLD & ORANGE
Invert 5 times

GOLD Tube— Let Clot for 30 min
Spin 10-15 min

Centrifugation allows the gel barrier inside each tube to permanently separate the plasma or serum from the red blood cells, preventing in vitro chemical reactions between blood components. This ensures the best quality in testing and is especially critical for glucose levels collected in a LT GREEN tube. Wait 30 minutes before centrifuging the GOLD tube to allow the blood to clot. The ORANGE, LT GREEN and PEARL tubes can be centrifuged immediately. Remember to invert the LT GREEN & PEARL tubes 8-10 times after collecting to make sure the anticoagulant prevents the blood from clotting. Invert ORANGE & GOLD tubes 5 times to mix clot activator with blood. **Centrifuge each tube for 10 minutes at 1100-1300 g in a swing-bucket unit or 15 minutes for a fixed angle unit.** PEARL Tubes must be centrifuged within 6 hrs of collection.

Molecular Tests

The following tests can be collected in a **PEARL tube**, the recommended collection tube for outreach clients. **PEARL tubes must be centrifuged within 6 hrs of collection** and ensures sample stability.

- Cytomegalovirus QN PCR
- HCV Genotype SerPI
- Hepatitis B DNA PI QN PCR
- Hepatitis C SerPI QL PCR
- Hepatitis C SerPI QN PCR
- HIV-1 Genotype-PCR PRI/RTI
- HSV 1,2 DNA Real-Time PCR

Glucose Levels

Glucose values may be falsely decreased when cells are not separated from plasma/serum within one hour of collection. **Please centrifuge the following tests within one hour of collection.** If you cannot process within 1 hr, please collect GLUCOSE in a Grey Top Tube (only use for Glucose Levels)

- Glucose Fasting SerPI QN
- Glucose 2 Hr PP SerPL QN
- Glucose SerPI QN
- Basic Metabolic Panel

Guidelines for Centrifugation

Centrifuge blood for 10 minutes at 1100-1300 g in a swing-bucket unit or 15 minutes for a fixed angle unit. Blue Coag Tubes should be centrifuged for 15 minutes at 3000 rpm.

Updated December 2014

General Rules for Processing Samples



Lt Green or Pearl Gel Barrier Tubes

Invert **Lt Green or Pearl** 8-10 times
Spin for 10-15 minutes
If specimen is to be shipped room temp or refrigerated, no need to transfer plasma into an aliquot tube.
If **plasma** is to be frozen, pour the plasma into an aliquot tube and freeze. Remember to properly label the aliquot tube with patient name, DOB, test and collect date.



Gold or Orange Gel Barrier Tubes

Allow **Gold** to sit for 30 minutes to form clot. **Orange** can be spun right away. Spin for 10-15 minutes to separate cells from serum.
If specimen is to be shipped room temp or refrigerated, no need to transfer serum into an aliquot tube.
If **serum** is to be frozen, pour the serum into an aliquot tube and freeze. Remember to properly label the aliquot tube with patient name, DOB, test and collect date.



6 ml or 3 ml EDTA Lavender Tubes

Whole Blood Samples are to be inverted 8-10 times after collection.
Ship whole blood samples according to required temperature. Do not spin.

Plasma Samples—invert tube of blood 8-10 times after collection
Spin tube for 10-15 minutes to separate cells from plasma.
Pipette the plasma carefully from the cells. Be careful not to pipette any red cells into plasma.
Transfer the plasma to an aliquot tube. Remember to properly label the aliquot tube with patient name, DOB, test and collect date.
Ship plasma according to required temperature.



Green Na Heparin Yellow ACD A or B

Pipette the plasma carefully from the cells. Be careful not to pipette any red cells into plasma.
Transfer the plasma to an aliquot tube. Remember to properly label the aliquot tube with patient name, DOB, test and collect date.
Ship plasma according to required temperature.



Grey, Tan or Royal Blue EDTA Tubes

The Royal Blue EDTA is for trace metals. If plasma is required, a special metal free aliquot tube is to be used.



Red or Royal Blue Tubes

Allow **Red or Royal Blue with Red Stripe** to sit for 60 minutes to form clot.
Spin for 10-15 minutes to separate cells from serum.
If **serum** is to be refrigerated or frozen, pipette the serum into an aliquot tube and freeze. Remember to properly label the aliquot tube with patient name, DOB, test and collect date.
Serum from a Royal Blue with Red Stripe requires a special trace metal free aliquot tube.



2.7 ml or 1.8 ml Blue Tubes

Invert **Blue Tubes** 8-10 times
If **whole blood sample** is required, ship to lab according to required temperature. Do not spin.
If **plasma sample** is required, follow specific instructions for each test but in general, a coag test should be double spun and plasma aliquoted and frozen within 4 hours of collection.

Spin blue tube for 15 minutes at 3000 rpm and transfer top 2/3 of plasma to an aliquot tube. Then spin the aliquot tube for the same amount of time. Transfer the top 2/3 of plasma to a clean aliquot tube and freeze plasma. Label tube 'plasma'.

Remember to properly label the aliquot tube with patient name, DOB, test and collect date.

Please use the IUHPL website at www.iuhealth.org/pathologylab for specific details on processing and shipping each test.