



Preparation of Plasma for Complement Testing

Specimen: Plasma

Tube size: Generally, the smallest tube size available is sufficient, but if ordering multiple tests, verify with laboratory

Tube Type: Lavender top, K2 or K3 EDTA

Plasma Collection and Processing Guidelines

1. Collect plasma from whole blood drawn in appropriate Vacutainer tube. Place tube on wet ice until it can be centrifuged. This time should not exceed 2 hours; 1 hour is preferred.
2. Separate plasma by centrifugation ~ 2700 RPM ($1300 \pm 100 \times g$) for 10 minutes in a centrifuge set to $+4^{\circ}\text{C}$. Room temperature centrifuge is acceptable if refrigerated centrifuge is not available. If using a room temperature centrifuge, do not place specimen on ice prior to centrifugation.
3. Specimens may need to be centrifuged a second time if cells are transferred with the plasma.
4. Affix tube labels to the cryogenic storage tube(s). Labels should include: study number, patient/subject number, study day and time point.
5. Aliquot as necessary at this point. Thawing the aliquot after freezing will detrimentally affect testing results.
6. Immediately transfer the samples to a -80° or lower freezer. When stored at this temperature, the specimens are stable for at least 12 months as long as they have not undergone additional freeze/thaw cycles.

Shipment Guidelines

1. Ship for overnight delivery.
2. Use ample dry ice. We recommend at least 10 lbs to allow for specimen survival even if there is a delay in shipment.
3. Ship only Sunday through Thursday for delivery Monday through Friday.
4. Exsera BioLabs is not staffed for weekend deliveries.
5. Shipping address:

Exsera BioLabs, Room M20-3209
University of Colorado Denver, Mail Stop B115
1775 N. Aurora Court,
Aurora Colorado 80045

Phone: 303-724-7592
Email: ExseraBioLabs@UCDenver.edu