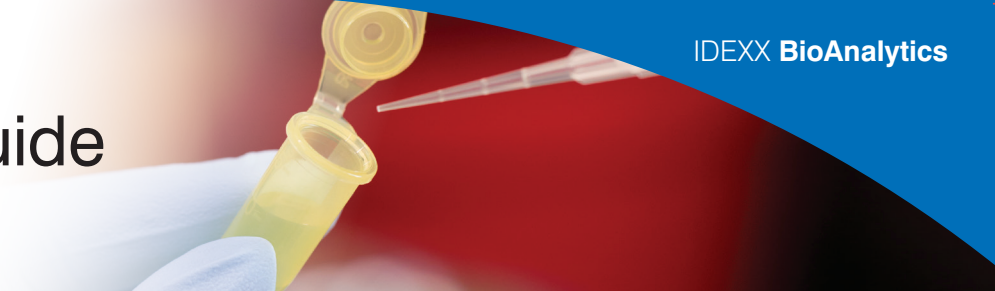





# Sample Collection Tube Guide

## Serum






Sample Type	Tube Types	Sample Handling	Sample Storage	Sample Shipping
<b>Serum*</b> Blood Chemistry, Immunology, Endocrinology	 <b>SST-SERUM Separator Tube</b> <b>4mL or 8mL</b> No anticoagulant red cap with yellow ring, clot activator with gel	Gently invert tube 5-10X after collection.  Let sample clot for approximately 15-20 minutes at room temperature.  Centrifuge @ approximately 2500rpm for 10-15 minutes.	Note: analyte stability depends on storage temperature and biological half-life.  Draw off serum into a transport tube for storage and shipment. Label the tube with sample ID and collection date and sample type.  Store samples refrigerated @ 2-8°C if shipping within 24 hours of collection.  Otherwise, freeze samples in transport tubes at -20°C .	Ship samples on cold packs or dry ice.
	 <b>RTT-RED Top Tube</b> <b>4 mL or 9 mL</b> Black ring, with clot activator			
	 <b>SST-MINI Gold Top Tube</b> <b>0.8 mL</b> Clot activator and gel			

\*Do not use SST for progesterone or therapeutic drug monitoring. Use RTT with clot activator instead.

IDEXX BioAnalytics provides these tubes at no charge. To request tubes or for any other questions contact Client Support Services at 1-800-544-5205, opt#2 or [IDEXXBioAnalytics@idexx.com](mailto:IDEXXBioAnalytics@idexx.com)





## Whole Blood, Urinalysis

Sample Type	Tube Types	Sample Handling	Sample Storage	Sample Shipping
<b>Whole Blood</b> Hematology, Fluids or Cytology	 <p><b>LTT-LAVENDER Top Tube</b>  <b>2mL or 9mL</b>            EDTA anticoagulant lavender cap with white ring</p>  <p><b>LTT-MINI Top Tube</b>  <b>0.5 mL</b></p>	Fill tube to appropriate fill line. (Proper blood to anticoagulant ratio is important for accurate results.)  Gently invert the tube 5-10X to prevent clotting.	Refrigerate. <b>Do Not Freeze.</b>  <small>Note: analyte stability depends on storage temperature and biological half-life</small>	Ship samples on cold packs.  Make sure tubes do not come in direct contact with cold packs during shipment.
<b>Urinalysis</b>	 <p><b>NON-ADDITIVE Tube</b>  <b>1.5 mL or 6 mL</b>            White cap with a black ring. Plain, silicone-coated plastic tube.</p>		Refrigerate. <b>Do Not Freeze.</b>	Ship on cold packs.

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## Citrated Plasma and Sample Transfer Tubes

Sample Type	Tube Types	Sample Handling	Sample Storage	Sample Shipping
<b>Citrated Plasma</b> Coagulation (ex. PT, PTT, fibrinogen)	 <p><b>BTT- Blue Top Tube</b>  <b>1.8 mL or 2.7 mL</b>            Light blue top with a black ring. sodium citrate anti-coagulant (3.2%).</p>	Fill tube to appropriate volume (proper blood to anticoagulant ratio is important for accurate results). Gently invert tube 5-10X to prevent clotting. Centrifuge as soon as possible @ 1500 rpm for 15 minutes. Transfer the plasma into a sample transfer tube. Label the tube with sample ID, collection date and "citrated plasma."	Freeze at -20°C until shipped for analysis.	Ship samples on cold packs or dry ice.
<b>Sample Transfer Tubes</b>	 <p><b>NON-ADDITIVE FOR TRANSPORT Tube</b>  <b>1.5 mL or 6 mL</b>            White cap with a black ring. Plain, silicone-coated plastic tube.</p>	Label the tube with sample ID, collection date and sample type (ie. "serum").	Refer to the sample handling, storage and shipment directions for the appropriate sample type.	
<b>Microbiology</b>		<b>Refer to the Microbiology Sample Preparation and Handling Guide</b>		

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