



Clinical Pathology Sample Collection and Handling Guide

IDEXX BioAnalytics provides these tubes at no charge. To request tubes, please submit a [Supply Request Form](#) on our website. If you have any other questions, please contact Client Support Services at IDEXXBioAnalytics@IDEXX.com




| Sample Type | Serum* Blood Chemistry, Immunology, Endocrinology | Whole Blood Hematology, Fluids or Cytology | | | | | |
|---|---|--|--|---|--|---|------------------------------------|
| Tube Types |  <table border="0"> <tr> <td data-bbox="216 835 377 1024"> SST-SERUM Separator Tube 4mL or 8mL No anticoagulant red cap with yellow ring, clot activator with gel </td> <td data-bbox="400 835 561 1024"> RTT-RED Top Tube 4 mL or 9 mL Black ring, with clot activator </td> <td data-bbox="584 835 745 1024"> SST-MINI Gold Top Tube 0.8 mL Clot activator and gel </td> </tr> </table> | SST-SERUM Separator Tube 4mL or 8mL No anticoagulant red cap with yellow ring, clot activator with gel | RTT-RED Top Tube 4 mL or 9 mL Black ring, with clot activator | SST-MINI Gold Top Tube 0.8 mL Clot activator and gel |  <table border="0"> <tr> <td data-bbox="776 835 938 1024"> LTT-LAVENDER Top Tube 2mL or 9mL EDTA anticoagulant lavender cap with white ring </td> <td data-bbox="960 835 1122 1024"> LTT-MINI Top Tube 0.5 mL </td> </tr> </table> | LTT-LAVENDER Top Tube 2mL or 9mL EDTA anticoagulant lavender cap with white ring | LTT-MINI Top Tube 0.5 mL |
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| Sample Handling | <p>Gently invert tube 5-10X after collection.</p> <p>Let sample clot for approximately 15-20 minutes at room temperature.</p> <p>Centrifuge @ approximately 2500 rpm for 10-15 minutes.</p> | <p>Fill tube to appropriate fill line. (Proper blood to anticoagulant ratio is important for accurate results.)</p> <p>Gently invert the tube 5-10X to prevent clotting.</p> | | | | | |
| Sample Storage <i>Note: analyte stability depends on storage temperature and biological half-life.</i> | <p>Draw off serum into a transport tube for storage and shipment. Label the tube with sample ID and collection date and sample type.</p> <p>Store samples refrigerated @ 2-8°C if shipping within 24 hours of collection.</p> <p>Otherwise, freeze samples in transport tubes at -20°C .</p> | <p>Refrigerate. Do Not Freeze.</p> | | | | | |
| Sample Shipping | <p>Ship samples on cold packs or dry ice.</p> | <p>Ship samples on cold packs.</p> <p>Make sure tubes do not come in direct contact with cold packs during shipment.</p> | | | | | |

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

See additional tube options on reverse side

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| Sample Type | Citratd Plasma Coagulation (ex. PT, PTT, fibrinogen) | Sample Transfer Tubes | Urinalysis | Microbiology |
|---|---|--|---|---|
| Tube Types |  <p>BTT- Blue Top Tube</p> <p>1.8 mL or 2.7 mL</p> <p>Light blue top with a black ring. sodium citrate anticoagulant (3.2%).</p> |  <p>NON-ADDITIVE FOR TRANSPORT Tube</p> <p>1.5 mL or 6 mL</p> <p>White cap with a black ring. Plain, silicone-coated plastic tube.</p> |  <p>NON-ADDITIVE Tube</p> <p>1.5 mL or 6 mL</p> <p>White cap with a black ring. Plain, silicone-coated plastic tube.</p> | <p>Refer to the Microbiology Sample Preparation and Handling Guide</p> |
| Sample Handling | <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 "citratd plasma."</p> | <p>Label the tube with Sample ID, collection date, and sample type (i.e. "serum")</p> | | |
| Sample Storage <i>Note: analyte stability depends on storage temperature and biological half-life.</i> | <p>Freeze at -20°C until shipped for analysis. Label the tube with sample ID, collection date and sample type (ie. "serum").</p> | <p>Refer to the sample handling, storage and shipment directions for the appropriate sample type.</p> | <p>Refrigerate, do not freeze.</p> | |
| Sample Shipping | <p>Ship samples on cold packs or dry ice.</p> | | <p>Ship on cold packs.</p> | |

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