

COLLECTION & PROCESSING OF WHOLE BLOOD FOR SERUM

Collecting, Preparing, and Shipping Serum Samples to CDC for Serology Testing

1 Collect 10mL of blood



A 10 mL volume of blood should be collected aseptically from a peripheral vein using appropriate gauge needles and a Vacutainer™ serum separator tube (SST).

2 Separation of serum from the blood cells must be done within 60 minutes of sample acquisition to prevent hemolysis.



Separate within 60 min

Serum separation must be completed before storing or shipping the serum. All serum separation must be done aseptically to avoid contamination.

3 Store at room temp for 30 min

To separate serum from cells or the clot the Vacutainer™-drawn blood must be stored at room temperature for at least 30 minutes for complete clot formation to minimize the potential of trauma-induced hemolysis.

The serum must be separated from the clotted blood by centrifugation, and then decanted using sterile technique into PLASTIC freezing vials with leak-proof screw caps (such as 2 mL Sarstedt Screw Cap Micro Tube with an O-ring in the lid or equivalent).

Separate before shipping



1.0 mL is the minimum acceptable volume needed for testing by CDC.

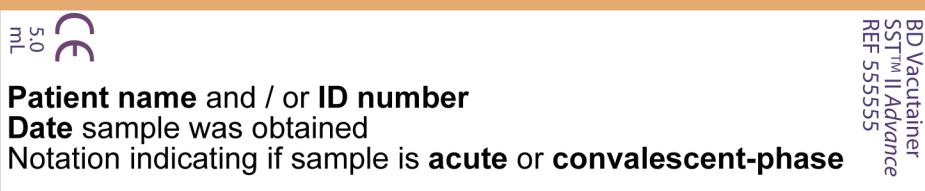
Store a backup sample



Send > 1.0 mL for testing

As a precaution, CDC recommends shipping only part of this approx 5mL serum sample, with the drawing site retaining an aliquot that should remain frozen.

4 The plastic vials must be labeled appropriately.



4



The serum must be frozen immediately following the separation and stored at -20°C or colder until shipped to CDC.

This provides a backup sample in case the CDC sample shipment is lost or arrives in a compromised condition unsuitable for testing.