



SPECIMEN COLLECTION AND PREPARATION PROCEDURE FOR GRACE ANTIBODY TEST

Sample collection and preparation

1. Collect blood samples in any serum collection tubes (clot activator and gel for serum separation, ex. BD Product Number: 367983 – yellow cap, 3.5 mL). Store all whole blood samples refrigerated (2-8 °C) avoid freezing upon collection.
2. Centrifuge the collected blood samples at 3000 RPM for 5-8 min.
3. Separate the sera after centrifugation into clear 1.5ml Eppendorf tubes, use as many as necessary (about 0.5 ml in each tube).

Note: Centrifuge and separate samples has to be done within three hours of venipuncture while keeping the samples refrigerated (2-8 °C).

4. Label individual specimens Eppendorf tube with patient' info and date of collection. Pack samples from corresponding patient in individual plastic bag marked with Biohazard sign along with patient' Requisition Form.
5. For longer storage of up to three weeks prior to analysis, freeze processed serum samples stored in an Eppendorf tube at or below –20 °C.

Samples storage and shipment

Shipping method for within one day (overnight) shipment:

Serum samples should be shipped in 1.5ml Eppendorf tubes.

Place samples from corresponding patient in individual plastic bag marked with Biohazard sign along with patient' Requisition Form.

If there more than two individual plastic bags containing the samples, collect them together in a large bag.

When transporting samples use foam box filled with ice packs enough to keep the temperature below –20°C upon arrival.

Shipping method for more than one day shipment:

Serum samples should be shipped in 1.5ml Eppendorf tubes.

Place samples from corresponding patient in individual plastic bag marked with Biohazard sign along with patient' Requisition Form.

If there more than two individual plastic bags containing the samples, collect them together in a large bag.

When transporting samples, use foam box filled with Dry Ice (-78.5 °C, pellets or slabs up to 3 pounds per box) enough to keep the temperature below -70°C upon arrival.