



Protocol for the Preparation and Shipment of Peripheral Blood Samples with EDTA Anticoagulant

Blood Sample Collection Method

Collect 10 mL of peripheral blood using a syringe and immediately transfer it into empty EDTA tubes. Gently invert the tube 10 times to ensure proper mixing. Alternatively, blood may be collected directly using a Venoject (vacuum tube system) and transferred directly into EDTA tubes, followed by 10 gentle inversions. EDTA tubes must be sterile, manufactured (commercial) with purple caps, and must not be expired.

Preparation of Anticoagulant

If commercial EDTA tubes are not available, 200 μ L of 0.5 M EDTA solution is sufficient for 10 mL of blood. Please note that non-standard or non-commercial tubes may result in test failure or invalid results.

Required Information

The patient's full name, date of birth, and, if available, the Kariminejad-Najmabadi center registration number must be clearly labeled on the sample tube.

Recommended Storage Conditions (Temperature and Time) Until Delivery

- Store at room temperature for up to 24 hours, or at refrigerator temperature for up to 72 hours.
- Place the tubes in a thermos flask.
- During hot weather, place ice packs inside the flask in a way that polystyrene (Styrofoam) **separates the tubes from direct contact with the ice packs.**
- Do not place blood samples in direct contact with ice.

Sample Delivery Time

Samples are accepted during working days from Saturday to Wednesday, 7:30 AM to 5:00 PM, and on Thursdays from 7:30 AM to 1:30 PM.

