

Instructions for Blood Specimen Collection and Shipping

*****To be tested - every specimen must have a completed FRAT test requisition form*****

BEFORE DRAWING SPECIMENS

- 1) **PHYSICIAN MUST complete top portion and sign Requisition Form (Include Address, Phone, Fax and Email).** Provide Account to be Billed for Testing if Applicable. Please Specify how you would like results to be reported (Phone, Fax, Email).
- 2) Stop All Folic Acid Supplements 2 Days Before Blood Draw
- 3) Record all Patient Information including Patient's Name (First Name, Last Name), Date of Birth, Gender and Contact Information on the test requisition form (please print legibly).
- 4) Complete Responsible Party Information (if other than patient) and sign/date consent
- 5) If not Billed to Physician Account, Please Complete Payment Information (Legible Credit Card Information, or Personal Check).
- 6) Be Sure Patient and Laboratory Personnel Understand the Collection Procedures

SPECIMEN COLLECTION PROCEDURES

Secure Label or Write with Permanent Marker the Patient Name and Date/Time of Blood Draw on Tubes

- 1) Draw 2-4 ml of Blood into Provided SST Tube. If No Tube Provided, Use SST Tube or Serum Tube (red top).
 - a) DO NOT USE Green Top tubes – Heparin is an Interfering Substances for the FRAT tests
- 2) Gently invert SST tube several times. Allow Serum to Clot and Separate Red Cells from Serum by Centrifugation
 - a) Transfer Serum to Clean Tube labeled with patient name and date/time of collection and Refrigerate (4°C) or Freeze (-20°C) Until Packaged for Shipment.
 - b) No Hemolyzed or Icteric Specimens Can Be Tested
 - c) Minimum Volume of Serum Required for Testing is 1 ml
- 3) If Centrifuge is not available at Collection Site, Whole Blood Collected into SST Tubes May be Shipped
 - a) Refrigerate Whole Blood Specimens Until Packaged for Shipment. DO NOT Freeze Whole Blood Specimens Prior to Shipping
- 4) Specimens should be shipped the same day as collected.

SHIPPING SPECIMENS

- 1) Use Kits Supplied to Ship Specimens When Available (See FRAT Shipping Kit Instructions for Assembly)
- 2) FREEZE Ice Packs Supplied in Kit Before Shipping. DO NOT Freeze Collection Tubes Before Use.
- 3) Place Specimens and Frozen Ice Pack in Separate Compartments of the Styrofoam Container and Place Absorbent Sheet over Specimen Tubes as Specified in Shipping Kit Instructions.
- 4) Place Styrofoam Container into Biohazard Specimen Bag Provided and Seal Ziploc. Place COMPLETED FRAT Test Requisition Form in Outer Pouch of the Biohazard Specimen Bag
- 5) Place Specimen Bag into Outer Cardboard Box and Secure with Packing Tape
- 6) If Transit Time is Expected to be More Than 2 Days, Specimens Must Be Isolated Serum and Shipped with Dry Ice in a Separate Shipping Container Compatible with Dry Ice.
- 7) **Ship STANDARD OVERNIGHT (UPS or FED Ex) for Weekday Delivery– (In US Ship Monday through Thursday, DO NOT SHIP SPECIMENS LATER THAN THURSDAY, NO Weekend or Holiday Deliveries Accepted)**

Ship to: 5110 Campus Drive, Suite 150, Plymouth Meeting, PA 19462 USA