



## ANIMAL HEALTH

### SPECIMEN COLLECTION INSTRUCTIONS

Revised 2014-11-30

#### **Single Blood Draw: 4ml whole blood (EDTA)**

One whole blood sample is collected aseptically on one day and submitted directly.

#### **Triple Blood Draw: 3 x 4ml whole blood (EDTA)**



Three blood/serum samples from one patient are collected aseptically every other day over a 5-7 day period, stored in the refrigerator, and submitted all at once.



Day 1

Day 3

Day 5

#### **EDTA Collection tube (Whole Blood):**

- 1) Following sample collection, gently invert the sample a minimum of 8 - 10 times
- 2) Label the tube with name and specimen collection date.
- 3) Log sample details on test request form.
- 4) Store samples in refrigerator for up to two weeks prior to shipping.

#### **Non-blood fluids: 0.5 - 3 ml fluid**

Fluid samples should be aseptically collected in a sterile tube (e.g., red top tube) and submitted directly. Fluid samples include: joint fluid, cerebrospinal fluid, pericardial effusions, etc. Samples may be stored in refrigerator for up to two weeks or frozen for up to two months prior to shipping.

#### **Lymph node aspirates: 3 ml fluid**

Following aseptic sample collection, samples should be placed in sealed sterile container and submitted directly. Lymph node aspirates may be injected into 1ml sterile saline in red top tube (no additives). Samples may be stored in refrigerator for up to two weeks or frozen for up to two months prior to shipping.

#### **Fresh/frozen biopsy tissue: 0.5 - 1 gram tissue**

Following aseptic sample collection, fresh/frozen biopsy tissue (min 0.5 to 1 gram) may be placed in sterile tube (no additives) and hydrated with 1ml sterile saline. Samples may be stored in refrigerator for up to two weeks or frozen for up to two months prior to shipping.

#### **Serology: 1 ml serum**

Serum should be collected in SST (yellow top tube) and spun prior to submission.

**PLEASE SHIP ACCORDING TO ENCLOSED SHIPPING INSTRUCTIONS.**

**SAMPLES WITH ICE PACKS BY OVERNIGHT COURIER.**

**DO NOT SHIP FRIDAY OR PRIOR TO HOLIDAYS. SHIP MON-THU.**

**DO NOT SEND BY REGULAR MAIL. USPS DOES NOT DELIVER TO OUR PHYSICAL LOCATION.**

**DO NOT USE DROP BOXES. CALL FOR COURIER PICKUP.**