

Serum Specimen Collection & Shipping Instructions

Jan, 2010

Food & Inhalant Antibody Assessment Panels
Candida Antibodies & Antigen
Celiac Antibody Panel
Painkiller Antibody Panel



Collection Kit Contents

- 2 10-ml Red Top Vacutainer
- 1 Disposable Transfer Pipette
- 1 Polyfoam Packer · 1 Mailing Box
- 1 10-ml Serum Transfer Tube
- 1 Ziploc bag · 1 Absorbent Pad
- 1 Test Requisition Form

Specimen Collection Instructions

Serum Requirements:

• Serum volumes are listed on the Test Requisition Form and in our Service Guide. An insufficient sample may result in the inability to complete testing for all panels ordered. Notification of the panels that could not be completed is issued with the partial report. Follow collection instructions carefully.

There is a \$15 fee for submittal of an unacceptable specimen.

1. Draw the blood utilizing the **Red Top Vacutainer** tubes provided. 2 fully drawn 10 ml sized Red Top OR SST tubes will usually provide about 6-8 ml of serum. If 2 Red Top OR SST tubes are not sufficient to provide the volume required for the panels ordered, a third tube may be needed.
2. Allow the blood to clot at room temperature for 30 minutes.
3. Centrifuge at 3000 RPM for 15 minutes.
4. With the **Disposable Transfer Pipette**, transfer serum from the **Red Top Vacutainers** into **Serum Transfer Tube**. Do not transfer red blood cells to the **Serum Transfer Tube**.
5. Secure tightly.
6. Wrap **Serum Transfer Tube** with **Absorbent Pad** and place it into the **Ziploc Bag**. Seal contents into **Polyfoam Packer** and then into the **Mailing Box**. Include **Test Requisition Form** inside the **Mailing Box**.

Important Shipping Instructions

- Clearly print Patient's Name & Sample Collection Date on Serum Transfer Tube and Test Requisition Form.
- Test Requisition Form must also include:
 - Patient's Date of Birth · Practitioner's Signature · Date Sent
 - Test Request · Billing Information · ICD-9 code (if being billed through insurance).
- Missing or incomplete test request information will delay processing and extend turn-around time.
- Mail specimens via US Postal Service.
- Specimen may be safely shipped at room temperature.
Food, Inhalant & Candida Panels - The lab must receive specimen within 14 days at room temperature from date of collection.
Celiac Antibody Panel - The lab must receive specimen within 21 days at room temperature from date of collection.
Painkiller Antibody Panel - The lab must receive specimen within 7 days at room temperature from date of collection.

Diet & Medications

1. It is advised to adhere to usual dietary habits consuming a variety of foods when possible. Avoid any food that may have potentially resulted in a previous adverse reaction or anaphylaxis. Secondary exposure may prove fatal. For Celiac Panel, individuals on a gluten-free diet prior to testing may show low or falsely negative serological values.
2. Immunosuppressive drugs such as oral or intranasal corticosteroids (prednisone, beclomethasone, fluticasone, triamcinolone), and topical cortisone suspensions and creams, may affect test results for antibody assessment. The suggested time period to abstain from these is 4 weeks.



To order supplies call US BioTek Laboratories during our normal business hours: 8:30am to 5:00pm PST.
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