



آغا خان یونیورسٹی ہسپتال

The Aga Khan University Hospital  
Clinical Laboratories

### Specimen Collection and Transportation Information

Test Name	Mnemonic	Section	Specimen Type
Activated Partial Thromboplastin Time	APTT	Coagulation	Plasma

- **Preparation of the Patient:** NA
- **Type of Collection Container:** 3.2 % buffered trisodium citrate (Blue top)
- **Types and Amounts of Preservatives or Anticoagulants:** 3.2 % buffered trisodium citrate
- **Quantity of Specimen to be collected:** Up to the given mark on blue top tube or 1.8cc blood collected in 3.2 % buffered trisodium citrated tube.
  - **Minimum Quantity:** 1 Sodium citrated tube
- **Transportation Temperature:**
  - a) Whole blood citrated tube transport at room temperature (+18 to +24 °C) within 2 hour of specimen collection.
  - b) Citrated Plasma sent in frozen state in dry ice.
- **Need for Special Timing for Collection (where applicable):** Not Applicable
- **Specimen Stability Information:**
  - a) Whole blood is stored at room temperature (+18 to +24 °C) for 4 hours.
  - b) Citrated plasma is stored at refrigerated temperature (+2 to +8 °C) for 4 hours.
  - c) Citrated plasma is stored at freezing temperature (-20 °C) for up to 2 weeks.
- **Special Instruction:**
  - a) It is important that the blood is added to the appropriate volume of anticoagulant within one minute of draw.
  - b) Regardless of the device use for specimen collection, all tubes should be inverted at least four times to mix.
  - c) Excess mixing can cause hemolysis and/or platelet activation leading to erroneous result.
  - d) If multiple specimens are collected, the coagulation sample can be the first tube or only tube drawn.
  - e) The citrated concentration must be adjusted in patients who have hematocrit value above 55%.
  - f) Platelet poor plasma is required for coagulation testing. For specimen preparation the capped specimen tube is centrifuged at 4000 rpm for 10 minutes at room temperature.



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• **Rejection Criteria:**

- Specimen improper labeled as to patient identity (unlabeled or mislabeled).
- Patient identification mismatched between specimen and requisition slip.
- Specimen improper collected i.e. hemolysed, clotted, over-filled or under-filled tubes.
- Improper collection container i.e. leakage or broken sample tube or container.
- Improper preservative, or improper anticoagulant e.g. 3.8% sodium citrate, EDTA, oxalate or heparin.
- Sample is drawn through a vascular Access Device (VAD) using a blood collection system or a syringe
- Incomplete test requisition slip (i.e., required test information not present)
- Specimen volume inadequate (QNS) for analysis
- Wrong or inappropriate source given for testing
- Excessive delay in specimen transport or improperly transported (i.e., not on ice or required temperature)
- Specimen contaminated with biological hazardous material
- Frozen specimen that have thawed upon transit from other hospitals/laboratories/collection point
- Specimen who have hematocrit above 55%

- **Need for Appropriate Clinical Data, When Indicated (Patient history):** No required

Methodology	Reporting Scheme	Day Performed	Cut Off Time Main Lab	Cut Off Time Karachi Points	Cut Off Time Out of Karachi Points
Clotting based assay	Same day	Daily	12:00 pm	10:00	Contact Nearest Collection Point