Specimen Collection and Transportation Information

Test Name	Mnemonic	Section	Specimen Type
Mixing Test	MIXIT	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 1.8 cc blood is collected in 3.2 % buffered trisodium citrated tube.
  - **Minimum Quantity:** 03 Sodium citrated tubes.
- **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):** NA
- **Specimen Stability Information:**
  a) Whole blood specimen is stored at room temperature (+18 to +24 °C) for 3 hours.
  b) It is unacceptable to store plasma at refrigerated temperature (+2 to +8 °C).
  c) Citrated plasma is stored at freezing temperature (-20 °C) for up to 4 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.

Approved by Service Line Chief and Director Dr. Farooq Ghani dated 1st April, 2016
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- **Rejection Criteria:**
  a) Specimen improper labeled as to patient identity (unlabeled or mislabeled).
  b) Patient identification mismatched between specimen and requisition slip.
  c) Specimen improper collected i.e. hemolysed, clotted, over-filled or under-filled tubes.
  d) Improper collection container i.e. leakage or broken sample tube or container.
  e) Improper preservative, or improper anticoagulant e.g. 3.8% sodium citrate, EDTA, oxalate or heparin.
  f) Sample is drawn through a vascular Access Device (VAD) using a blood collection system or a syringe
  g) Incomplete test requisition slip (i.e., required test information not present)
  h) Specimen volume inadequate (QNS) for analysis.
  i) Wrong or inappropriate source given for testing.
  j) Excessive delay in specimen transport or improperly transported (i.e., not on ice or required temperature)
  k) Specimen contaminated with biological hazardous material
  l) Frozen specimen that have thawed upon transit from other hospitals/laboratories/collection point
  m) Specimen who have hematocrit above 55%

- **Need for Appropriate Clinical Data, When Indicated (Patient history):** Not 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	After 2 days	Monday-Friday	12:01am	10:00	Contact Nearest Collection Point

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