



آغا خان یونیورسٹی ہسپتال

The Aga Khan University Hospital
Clinical Laboratories

Specimen Collection and Transportation Information

Test Name	Mnemonic	Section	Specimen Type
Ristocetin Induced Platelet Aggregation	RIPA	Coagulation	Plasma

- **Preparation of the Patient:**
 - a) Patient for RIPA test should be resting, fasting and non-smoking.
 - b) Patient should avoid taking any prescription or over the counter medication known to affect platelet function for ten days to two weeks prior to the test.
- **Type of Collection Container:** 3.2 % buffered trisodium citrate (Blue top) and 1 EDTA.
- **Types and Amounts of Preservatives or Anticoagulants:** 3.2 % buffered trisodium citrate and EDTA
- **Quantity of Specimen to be collected:** 3.2 % buffered trisodium citrate (3 to 4 tubes), up to the given mark on blue top tubes and 1 EDTA (Purple Top).
 - **Minimum Quantity:** 3.2 % buffered trisodium citrate (3 tubes) & 1 EDTA tube.
- **Transportation Temperature:**

Only fresh samples are acceptable which are collected in main lab of “The Aga Khan University Hospital Karachi”.
- **Need for Special Timing for Collection (where applicable):** Sample is not collected at collection point.
- **Specimen Stability Information:**
 - a) All specimens are kept at room temperature (+18 to +24°C) and should not be placed on ice, in a refrigerator or a water bath.
 - b) The time delay between collection, transport and analysis should ideally be preferably between 30 minutes and 2 hours but not more than 4 hours.
- **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.



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e) All specimens are kept at room temperature and should not be placed on ice, in a refrigerator or a water bath.

• **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.

• **Need for Appropriate Clinical Data, When Indicated (Patient history):** Required

Methodology	Reporting Scheme	Day Performed	Cut Off Time Main Lab	Cut Off Time Karachi Points	Cut Off Time Out of Karachi Points
Optical	After 3 days	Tuesday-Friday	12:01am	Sample is not collected at collection point	Sample is not collected at collection point