Evaluation of the Patient Sample

GUIDELINE 3: Hematology Sample Acceptance and Rejection

Do Not Reject Samples Considered Difficult to Collect

Samples considered difficult to collect are:

- Samples collected in the operating room
- CSF samples
- Tissue samples
- Sterile fluid samples (i.e. joint fluid)

- Aspirate samples
- Samples collected from infants/pediatrics (Age: birth to 5 years old)
- · Surgical pathology samples

Hematology Criterion	Required Action
Clotted sample CBC, ESR or Coagulation	Reject
CBC sampleroom temperature sample greater than 24 hours old	 Process for Hematology profile. if testing is further delayed, make a peripheral smear and store at 2 – 8°C test within 72 hours of collection time
 CBC sample sample at 2 – 8°C and greater than 72 hours old less than 1 ml blood in 3.0 ml EDTA less than 250ul in 500ul EDTA microtainer 	Reject
 Reticulocyte sample: room temperature sample greater than 8 hours old sample at 2 – 8°C and greater than 6 days old⁽²⁾ 	Reject

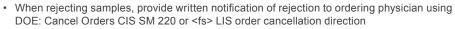
Hematology Criterion	Required Action
 Infectious Mononucleosis Sample: serum at 2 – 8°C and greater than 3 days old whole blood at 2 – 8°C and greater than 48 hours old (Clearview Mono kit only) hemolyzed serum or whole blood stored at room temperature greater than 2 hours 	Reject
 ESR Sample Sodium Citrate (black tube) under-filled or over-filled (must fill to fill line) sample at 2 – 8°C and greater than 72 hours old sample at room temperature and greater than 4 hours old EDTA (lavender tube) underfilled – minimum 1.2 ml required sample at 2 – 8°C and greater than 48 hours old sample at room temperature and greater than 24 hours old 	Reject
 ANA sample serum not centrifuged and aliquoted immediately after collection sample at room temperature and greater than 2 days old sample at 2 – 8°C and greater than 5 days old 	Reject • freeze sample if transit time greater than 5 days
aDNA samplesample at room temperature and greater than 24 hours old	Reject • samples should be aliquoted and frozen until testing can be performed

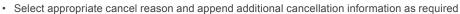
Hematology Criterion	Required Action
 Blood Parasite sample (malaria etc.) Smears not made within 1 hour of collection time EDTA samples for Malaria Rapid Test (pending approval) sample at 2 – 8°C and greater than 72 hours old 	Reject when EDTA samples were stored at 2 – 8°C and when greater than 72 hours old. Proceed with making the smears even after 1 hour of collection and add a comment that it was a delay in slides preparations
Body Fluid cell count and differential sample: (includes CSF)	Proceed with testing – never reject body fluid samples • all samples should be evaluated for abnormal cells • refer to H BFA 0003 for appropriate test cancellation comments if sample is clotted or too old
 Cryoglobulin / Cryofibrinogen sample not fresh or midstream urine greater than 3 hours old not stored at 4° C 	Reject
 Cryoglobulin / Cryofibrinogen sample not received at 37°C lipemia present in serum/ plasma patient receiving heparin or other blood anticoagulants 	Reject
Bone marrow sample received without fixative	Place: Bone marrow biopsy in B Plus Fixative and forward to Anatomic Pathology Bone marrow aspirate in 10% formalin and forward to Anatomic Pathology

Hematology Criterion	Required Action
 Coagulation sample: (Sodium Citrate blue top) under-filled or over-filled by more than 10 of fill line hemolyzed plasma 	Reject
 PT sample: un-centrifuged PT samples stored at room temperature and greater than 24 hours old plasma aliquot stored at room temperature and greater than 8 hours old any PT sample stored at 2 – 8°C 	
 PTT sample: not centrifuged within 1 hour of collection and patient receiving unfractionated heparin any other PTT centrifuged or un-centrifuged sample greater than 4 hours old 	
 Any other coagulation test: greater than 4 hours old and plasma not frozen "platelet poor plasma" not indicated on tube 	
 Any frozen plasma aliquot: received partially or completely thawed "platelet poor plasma" not indicated on tube 	
 Fibrinogen (1) sample: whole blood sample at room temperature and greater than 4 hours old plasma aliquot stored at: room temperature and greater than 8 hours old minus 20°C and greater than 2 weeks old minus 70°C and greater than 12 months old 	Reject

Hematology Criterion	Required Action
 Thrombin Time ⁽¹⁾ sample: whole blood sample at room temperature and greater than 4 hours old plasma aliquot stored at: room temperature and greater than 2 hours old minus 20°C and greater than 2 weeks old minus 70°C and greater than 12 months old 	Reject
 D-Dimer Sample: plasma aliquot stored at: room temperature and greater than 8 hours old minus 20°C and greater than 1-month old 	Reject

⁽¹⁾ Reference: 2015-12-14 Fibrinogen and Thrombin Time Sample Stability Recommendation (Approved: 2016-02-04)







⁽²⁾ Reference: 2014-05-01 Reticulocyte Sample Stability Validation (Approved: 2014-04-14)