

Sample Collection



The preanalytical phase which includes sample collection, handling, storage and shipping is an important component to the quality of data produced at Antech GLP. Please reach out to us should you have any questions regarding the guidelines below.

Whole Blood

Sample Handling

Storage

Shipping

Whole blood generally refers to unclotted whole blood and is further clarified by the type of anticoagulant used in the collection tube.

Gently invert to mix sample. Do not centrifuge. Label tube appropriately ie. animal ID, collection date, etc.

Whole blood should be kept cool and not frozen.

All samples should be shipped on ice packs. If whole blood is shipped, the sample should be wrapped in paper towels to prevent direct contact of the tube with the ice pack. Find forms and directions for shipping samples [here](#).

Plasma

Sample Handling

Storage

Shipping

Plasma is the fluid that is removed after centrifugation of anticoagulated whole blood. Plasma can be obtained from the use of several different anti-coagulants. Because each type of anti-coagulant changes the plasma, not all anticoagulants are acceptable for all tests.

Gently invert to mix sample. Centrifuge ASAP, transfer supernatant, and discard red cells. Label the tube appropriately ie. animal ID, collection date, kind of plasma, etc.

Plasma should be separated immediately after collection, transferred to a cryovial, and frozen immediately.

All samples should be shipped on ice packs or on dry ice. Find forms and directions for shipping samples [here](#).

Sample Collection



Serum

Sample Handling

Storage

Shipping

Serum is the clear liquid part of the blood that remains after blood cells and clotting proteins have been removed. Serum is the sample of choice for chemistry and other esoteric testing. Many tests are validated using serum rather than plasma and therefore only serum will be accepted for these tests.

Allow blood to sit to allow clot formation (30-60 minutes at room temperature or 2-4 hours refrigerated.) Centrifuge after clot forms, then transfer supernatant and discard red cells. Label new tube with animal ID and as serum.

All samples should be refrigerated or frozen.

All samples should be shipped on ice packs or dry ice. Find forms and directions for shipping samples [here](#).

Urine

Sample Handling

Storage

Shipping

Urine is a liquid containing multiple by-products of metabolism. Urinalysis is a panel of medical tests that includes physical examination of the urine, chemical evaluation using urine test strips, and microscopic examination.

Samples should be collected in a sterile manner and be of adequate volume (test volume requirements can be found [here](#).)

Urine should be, not frozen, stored refrigerated to maximize cell preservation and minimize bacterial growth. Urine received frozen can not have microscopic evaluation.

All samples should be shipped on ice packs. Find forms and directions for shipping samples [here](#).