

# PRACTICE TIPS

## The proper handling of blood samples



### Order

Be sure to follow the order of sample collection, starting with the serum.



**S**

Serum



**C**

Citrate/CPDA



**H**

Heparin/  
Homocysteine



**E**

EDTA



**F**

Sodium fluoride

Tip:  
remember  
**SCHEF**

Figure, e.g. vacuettes

### Blood sampling

**1** Avoid prolonged stasis, preferably no longer than 30 seconds (maximum 1 minute).

**2** Puncture the vein, release the tourniquet, and then draw the blood.

**3** Gently swivel each tube at least 3 times immediately after sample collection (do not shake!).

**4** Adhere to the standard conditions for blood collection.

### Centrifugation

- Recommended setting: 10 min at 3000-4000 rpm
- Serum and serum gel tubes must be stored upright for at least 30 minutes and no longer than 60 minutes before centrifugation.
- For EDTA or citrate plasma, the corresponding tube must be centrifuged immediately after blood collection.

Upright storage

Upright coagulated sample after centrifugation

**RIGHT**

Horizontally coagulated sample after centrifugation

Horizontal storage

**WRONG**



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### Plasma collection

- **Materials required:**  
transfer pipettes, centrifuge tubes
- **The clear plasma must be transferred into an empty centrifuge tube.**
  - In the case of serum gel tubes, the plasma can be carefully transferred by decanting if necessary.
  - For citrate, EDTA, and serum tubes (without gel), the plasma must be separated using a transfer pipette. Caution: No red components should be aspirated!



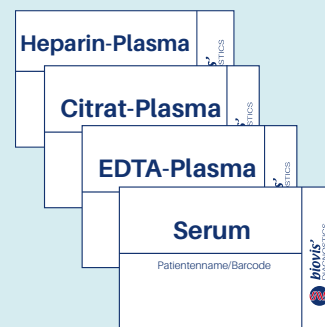
**Transfer pipettes**  
(Article number 2600171)



**Centrifuge tubes**  
(Article number 60.610.100)

### IMPORTANT

Label the centrifuge tube with the corresponding sticker (e.g., Serum, EDTA-Plasma, or Citrat-Plasma). Additionally, attach a barcode to the tube or, if necessary, label it with the patient's name.



### Storage and shipping conditions

Use our special light-protected transport tubes for all samples, place them in the safety bag, and hand them over to the courier service or send the samples in a special mailing bag via post.



**Transport tube (light protected)**  
(Article number HT1011)



**Safety-Bag**  
(Article number 777)



**Mailing bag (example)**

You can order the materials free of charge using our order form.



You can find more tips and information on our homepage under Pre-Analytics.



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