

Labstract – January 2007

Blood Collection Using Serum Separator Tubes

To Health Care Providers:

Whenever possible, prepare the sample, as noted below, prior to shipping.

Sample Preparation

Invert 5 Times

- Gently invert the tube 5 times to mix the clot activator with the blood.

Clot 30 Minutes

- Allow the blood to clot for 30 minutes in a vertical position.

Spin 10 to 15 minutes

- Centrifuge at FULL SPEED (between 1100 and 1300g) for 10 minutes for swing head centrifuge units or 15 minutes for fixed angle units.
- Barrier will form, separating serum from the clot.
- Transport spun tube to the laboratory.

For further information:

- Contact the PHOL Customer Service Centre at 416-235-6556 or toll free at 1-877-604-4567, or via email at customerservicecentre@oahpp.ca
- For the PHOL Specimen Collection Guide and previous Labstracts, refer to <http://www.oahpp.ca/services/public-health-laboratories.html>
- To subscribe to labstracts, please e-mail labstracts@oahpp.ca