



How you want to be treated.

St. Paul's Hospital Special Coagulation Testing

Sample Requirements and Handling

Sample type

Platelet poor plasma from blood collected in Sodium Citrate (3.2%) collection tubes (light blue top)

Required information:

Please note the required information listed below. Anticoagulant therapy interferes with many of the coagulation tests. Please specify the medications the patient is taking, including heparin, warfarin, low molecular weight heparin (LMWH) and the newer anticoagulants including:

- Direct thrombin inhibitors: argatroban, lepirudin, dabigatran
- Factor Xa inhibitors: fondaparinux, rivaroxaban, apixaban

Sample handling:

Obtain platelet poor plasma as follows:

- Spin whole blood. Transfer the top three quarters of the plasma to an aliquot tube.
- Spin the aliquot again and remove the top three quarters of the plasma to a polypropylene plastic tube suitable for freezing.
- Each aliquot should contain 1.0 to 1.5 mL plasma
- Rapidly freeze plasma aliquot(s) and store at -20°C or below.
- Send to St. Paul's Hospital on dry ice. **Specimen must arrive frozen.**

Mailing Address:

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Division of Chemistry and Hematology,
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| TEST | Number aliquots required | Additional Information |
|--|---|---|
| Coagulation factor assays | Single factor assay: 1 Additional factors: 2 | Please specify any anticoagulant therapy as it may affect results. |
| Factor 8 (Bethesda assay) or Factor 9 inhibitor | 2 | |
| Von Willebrand Disease Investigation VWF Activity VWF Antigen FVIII | 2 | |
| Antithrombin | 1 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not on heparin, LMWH, or direct thrombin inhibitors • Not recommended during acute phase of thromboembolism. |
| Protein C activity | 1 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not on warfarin, direct thrombin or factor Xa inhibitors • Not recommended during acute phase of thromboembolism. |
| Protein S activity | 1 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not on warfarin for at least 3 weeks. • Not on direct thrombin or factor Xa inhibitors • Not recommended during acute phase of thromboembolism. • Investigation not recommended during pregnancy. |
| Lupus anticoagulant | 3 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not on heparin, LMWH, direct thrombin or factor Xa inhibitors. • Please indicate if patient on warfarin. • Anti-cardiolipin and Beta2-Glycoprotein testing is done at VGH- please send sample directly there. |
| Mixing Studies (PT or PTT) | 2 | Please specify any anticoagulant therapy |
| Heparin level by anti-Xa (Unfractionated or Low Molecular Weight Heparin) | 1 | Please specify the type of Heparin the patient has received |
| Alternative Anticoagulants Dabigatran, Argatroban, Rivaroxaban | 1 | Please specify the anticoagulant and, if possible, the dosage |
| HIT (Heparin Induced Thrombocytopenia) | 1 | 4Ts Probability form must be filled out and sent with sample. Phone 604-806-8212 for copy of form |
| Platelet function test by aggregometry | N/A | Pre-booked. Patient must come to SPH laboratory |