



MiniCollect® CAT Serum (Sep) Tubes



For In Vitro Diagnostic Use

Instructions for use

Intended Use

To collect, transport, separate and process capillary blood for testing serum in the clinical laboratory.

Product Description

MiniCollect® Tubes are plastic, non-evacuated, non-sterile low sample volume tubes with integrated collection devices. The closure is colour coded to identify the additives which are present in varying concentrations depending on the tube type and stated volumes.

The **MiniCollect®** CAT Serum Tubes contain a blood clotting activator that functions to initiate the clotting process. Serum tubes should be allowed to clot in an upright position for at least 30 minutes prior to centrifugation. Serum Separator Tubes contain a gel on the bottom of the tube which moves upwards during centrifugation to form a stable barrier between the clot and the serum.

The product is to be used by appropriately trained healthcare professionals in accordance with these instructions.

Tube Type	Matrix	Cap colour
MiniCollect® CAT Serum Tubes – not available in USA	Capillary blood	Red
MiniCollect® CAT Serum Sep Tubes (with gel) – not available in USA	Capillary blood	Gold

Product versions

MiniCollect® Tubes with optional 13x75 mm carrier tubes (clear, amber)

MiniCollect® Complete Tubes pre-assembled with 13x75 mm carrier tubes

Storage before use

Store tubes at 4–25°C (40–77°F). Avoid exposure to direct sunlight. Exceeding the maximum recommended storage temperature may lead to impairment of the tube quality (*i.e. colouring, etc.*)

Sample Stability and Storage

Refer to the instrument assay instructions for use or literature for information on the correct sample material, correct storage and stability. Serum should be separated from cells within 2 hours, either by collection and centrifugation with a gel tube or by transferring serum into a secondary container if a gel tubes is not used.

Precautions/Cautions

- Do not use tubes if foreign matter is present.
- Handle all biological samples and blood collection devices according to the policies and procedures of your facility.
- Obtain appropriate medical attention in the case of any exposure to biological samples.
- Check all tubes to verify appropriate product and shelf-life before use. Do not use tubes after the expiration date.
- It is the laboratory's ultimate responsibility to verify that a change from one tube to another does not significantly affect analytical results obtained from patient samples.
- Single use only.

Specimen Collection and Handling

Equipment required but not provided

- Labels for positive patient identification of samples
- For testing bilirubin, **MiniCollect®** tubes must be used with the amber carrier tube or other protective cover.
- Gloves and appropriate apparel for protection against exposure to blood borne pathogens
- Alcohol swab
- Dry gauze
- Warming device if appropriate, depending on the volume of blood needed and the test(s) to be performed
- Adhesive plaster or bandage
- Biohazard disposal container
- Safety lancet

Recommended Order of Draw (based on CLSI GP42-A6)

If multiple specimens are to be collected, including EDTA specimens, the EDTA specimen is drawn first to ensure adequate volume and accurate haematology test results. Specimens with other additives are collected next; serum specimens are collected last.

- 1 EDTA
- 2 Heparin / Heparin Sep
- 3 Glycolytic inhibitor tubes
- 4 Serum / Serum Sep

Cap Removal

The ribbed area around the tube top indicates the cap opening location. Remove the cap by applying gentle pressure on the cap in an upward direction. The triangle indicator is positioned opposite of the collection scoop.

Specimen Collection

For the collection of blood by skin puncture, please refer to the instructions for use for the lancet device used.

Blood flow from the skin puncture site is increased by holding the puncture site in a downward position. The first drop of blood should be wiped away with a gauze pad if appropriate for the test method, as it is likely to contain excess tissue fluids. Apply gentle, intermittent pressure to the surrounding tissue (or proximal to the puncture site when using a finger). Strong, repetitive pressure (milking), must not be applied. It may cause hemolysis or tissue-fluid contamination of the specimen and adversely affect test results.

Drops of blood should be allowed to flow freely into the tube and down the walls of the **MiniCollect**[®] Tube. If a drop becomes lodged inside the scoop or to mix the contents as specimen is collected, gently tap the tube on a hard surface. Do not shake and avoid flicking the open tube. For correctly filled tubes, observe the fill mark. After collection, close the tubes with the original cap, an audible click indicates correct closure. Invert until the blood completely mixes with the additive (approximately 8-10x). Vigorous shaking may cause foaming and hemolysis. The patient must be positively identified and the patient's blood sample must be properly labeled at the time of collection. The specimen should be labelled immediately following collection and mixing.

Centrifugation









Blood in Serum tubes should be allowed to fully clot prior to centrifugation.

Ensure that tubes are properly seated in the centrifuge carrier. **MiniCollect**[®] tubes are recommended to be centrifuged at 3000g for a period of 10 minutes. Other centrifugation settings may also provide acceptable separation. Centrifugation should be done at a temperature of 15-24°C (59-75°F). It is not recommended to re-centrifuge separator tubes once the barrier has been formed. Barriers are more stable when tubes are spun in centrifuges with horizontal swing-out rotors rather than those with fixed angle heads.

Disposal


- The general hygiene guidelines and legal regulations for the proper disposal of infectious material should be considered and followed.
- Always wear gloves during blood collection and disposal.
- Contaminated or filled blood collection tubes must be disposed of in suitable biohazard disposal containers, which can then be autoclaved and incinerated afterwards.

Label Information

	Manufacturer		Temperature limit
	Use-by date		Do not re-use
	Batch code		Consult instructions for use
	Catalogue number		<i>In vitro</i> diagnostic medical device
Rx only	Prescription device		

Literature

GP42-A6 Procedures and Devices for the Collection of Diagnostic Capillary Blood Specimens; Approved Standard-Sixth Edition.

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