



SPECIMEN COLLECTION, HANDLING AND SHIPPING

Specimen Collection:

Infants: Minimum of 2-3 mL of whole blood in a purple top (EDTA) tube

Adults and children over 2 years of age: Minimum of 3-5 mL of whole blood in a purple top (EDTA) tube

Cord Blood: Minimum of 3-5 mL of whole blood in a purple top (EDTA) tube

Isolated DNA – 50 µl at a concentration of 50 ng/µl, label tube with concentration also

Specimen Labeling and Storage: Label specimens with the patient's full name as indicated on the test requisition, date of birth, date of collection, and source (if appropriate). Blood samples are stable at room temperature (15^o to 25^oC) for one day or at 2^o to 8^oC for up to 5 days. Blood samples should not be frozen at any time.

Specimen Transportation: Specimens from outside facilities should be packaged according to standard medical safety practices and shipped by overnight priority. Refrigerate samples if stored overnight prior to shipping. In hot weather, include a cool pack in the shipping container. Do not allow the specimen to freeze at any time. Package the completed test requisition inside the packaging container with the specimen. Make certain the information on the specimen label matches the information on the requisition.

Samples are received Monday through Friday. Specimens should not be shipped on Fridays, Saturdays or the day preceding a holiday. Check website for holiday schedule.

Shipping Address: Molecular Diagnostics Laboratory
DDC Clinic – Center for Special Needs Children
14567 Madison Rd.
Middlefield, OH 44062

Telephone: (440) 632-5532

Fax: (440) 632-1697

E-Mail: lab@ddcclinic.org

Causes of Specimen Rejection: The following conditions may result in delayed reporting or inability to process the specimen: missing or incomplete requisition, incorrectly labeled or unlabeled specimen, broken, leaking, or incorrect sample tube, frozen or clotted specimen, sample volume is less than the minimum required, mismatch between specimen label information and test requisition information, blood specimen more than 5 days old.

If a sample is received in unacceptable condition, the referring individual or institution will be notified immediately.

Specimen Retention Policy: Specimens submitted for DNA testing will be retained by the Molecular Diagnostics Laboratory until DNA Isolation is complete (usually one to two business days after specimen receipt). Isolated DNA will be retained for a minimum of two years.

Reference: Qiagen Gentra Puregene Handbook Third edition April 2010