

LAB320 Prothrombin Time (PT) & INR

BMC, CRH, LFH, OCH, FTT, FOX

Specimen Type

Plasma, Platelet Poor

Preferred Container

Plastic blue top tube (3.2% sodium citrate)

Volume Required

2.7 mL

Storage Requirements

If request is for PT only (no PTT or other coagulation assay): Keep sample in original container. Specimens should be transported at room temp. If request is for PT with PTT (or other coagulation assay):

Prepare Platelet Poor Plasma:

Centrifuge at 1500g for 10 minutes.

Use a plastic transfer pipette to remove plasma (staying away from the buffy coat layer) and transfer top 2/3 of plasma to a plastic aliquot tube.

Centrifuge this aliquot tube at 1500g for 10 minutes.

Transfer top 3/4 of plasma (do not disturb button at bottom of tube) into another plastic aliquot tube.

Label this tube with patient information and a PLASMA sticker.

Freeze plasma immediately in a -15° to -25°C freezer until ready to transport.

Plasma must be transported to the Laboratory frozen.

Transportation Needs

Deliver specimen to the laboratory within 1 hour of collection.

If not possible see “Storage Requirements”

Causes for Rejection

Clotted specimens

Collection in any tube other than 3.2% plastic sodium citrate blue top tube

Mislabeled or unlabeled specimen

Less than 90% filled

Received greater than 24 hours old unless separated from cells and frozen at -15° to -25°C

Hemolysis > 500 mg/dL (>4+)

Whole Blood or Plasma samples received refrigerated (2-8 degree C) or on ice.

Reference Values

Analyte	Population	Units	Reference Range	High Critical Value
Prothrombin Time	General population	seconds	10.1-13.2	

INR	General population	None	0.9-1.1	>4.4
	Routine oral anticoagulation	None	2.0 - 3.0	>4.4
	Mechanical Valve	None	2.5 - 3.5	>4.4

Available STAT

Yes

Methodology

Prothrombin Time: Turbidimetric INR: Calculated parameter

CPT Code

85610