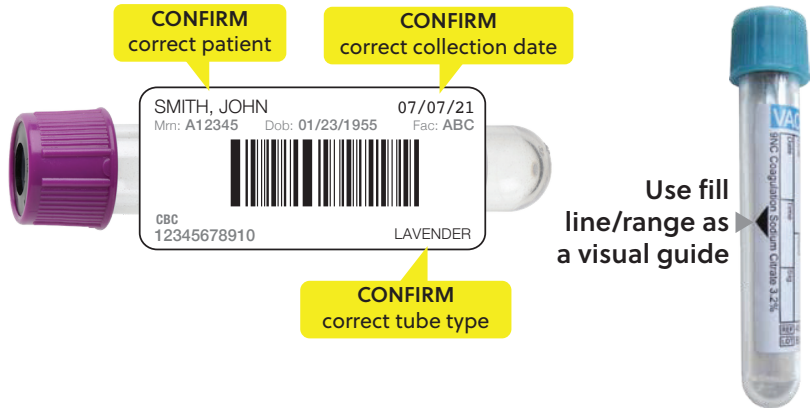


# Specimen Integrity | Avoid Canceled Tests

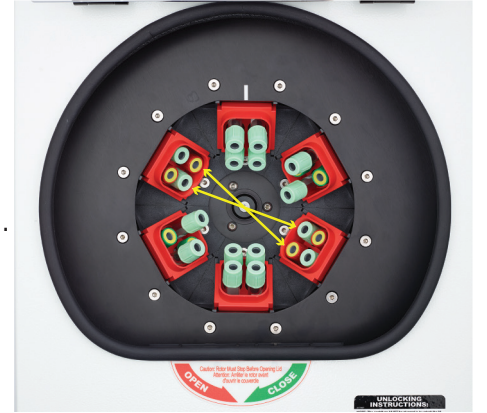
## Label & Collection



## Centrifuge Gel Tubes

**Process all specimens within 2 hours.**

- Centrifuge before refrigerating.
- Red Top tube requires minimum ½ hr to clot after draw.
- Opposing tube carriers must be identical.
- Centrifuge full cycle.
- Inspect tubes for proper separation.

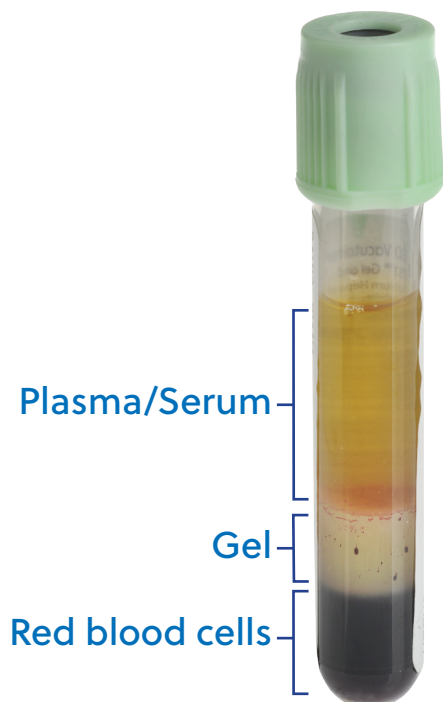


## Properly Spun Tube

**Plasma/Serum** (clear yellow part) contains no red blood cells.

**Gel** is firmly wedged against sides, separating plasma from red blood cells.

**Red blood cells** are below gel barrier.



## Common Errors



### Unspun Tube

- Gel on bottom.
- No separation of red blood cells from plasma/serum.

**Spin before shipping**



### Unspun Tube Left Standing

- Gel on bottom.
- Separation of red blood cells from plasma/serum.

**Spin immediately**



### Poorly Spun

- Plasma/serum will be pink or red.
- No complete gel barrier.

**Properly balance centrifuge**



### Clotted

- Clots adhere to tube when tilted.

**Invert tube IMMEDIATELY after draw**



### Quantity Not Sufficient (QNS)

- Draw range requirement not met.

**Use nominal fill range/line as a visual guide**



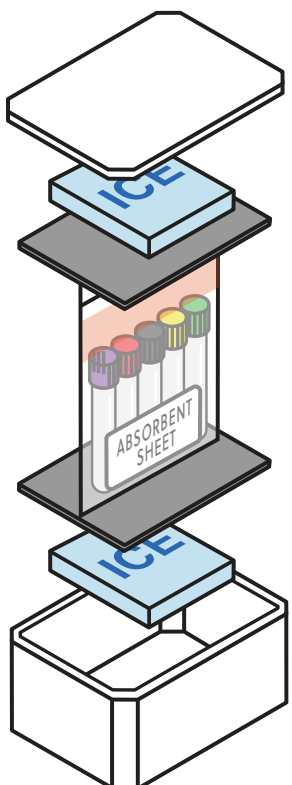
### Hemolysis

- Plasma/serum will be pink or red.

**Follow proper specimen collection**

## Properly Packaged Specimens

### Refrigerated



**Shipment** does not contain needles.

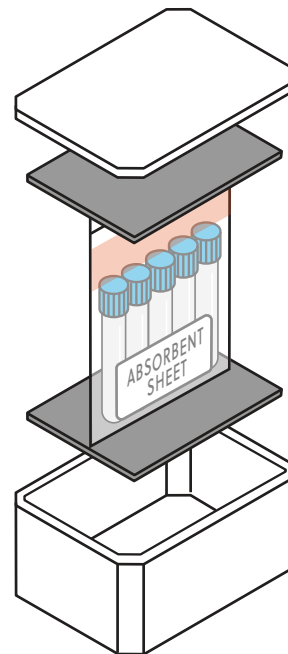
**Ice Packs** placed properly, using correct size/quantity.

- Small/Medium Box = 2
- Large Box = 4

**Refrigerated Specimens** packaged in biohazard transport bag with absorbent sheet and does not contain room temperature specimens.

**Foam Layers** placed on top and bottom of bagged specimens to protect from direct contact with ice packs.

### Room Temperature



**Shipment** does not contain needles or ice packs.

**Room Temperature Specimens** packaged in biohazard transport bag with absorbent sheet and does not contain refrigerated specimens.

**Foam Layers** placed on top and bottom of bagged specimens.