

# Kephera Diagnostics Laboratory

1 Grant St., Suite 300, Framingham, MA 01702-6767

Tel: 774-777-3558

[www.kephera.com](http://www.kephera.com)

Fax: 774-777-3559

[clia@kepheralab.com](mailto:clia@kepheralab.com)

CLIA ID Number: 22D2182419

Andrew E. Levin, Ph.D. Laboratory Director

## SAMPLE HANDLING INSTRUCTIONS

1. All testing of samples in Kephera Diagnostics' laboratory must be ordered by an authorized provider.
2. Use universal precautions when handling specimens containing blood or other potentially infectious material. Specimens must be handled in a safe manner and according to applicable legal requirements or guidance. Information on safe specimen handling may be obtained from the U.S. Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).
3. **Sample handling after collection:**
  - 3.1. Handling:
    - 3.1.1. After sample collection, invert the tube 5-10 times.
    - 3.1.2. For serum collection, allow the blood to clot for sixty minutes and separate by centrifugation (15 minutes at 2200-2500 RPM).
    - 3.1.3. For EDTA plasma collection, separate plasma by centrifugation (15 minutes at 2200-2500 RPM).
    - 3.1.4. Transfer the serum or plasma to a plastic tube with screw cap and make sure to close it tightly.
    - 3.1.5. The serum and plasma samples should be clear and free from red cells.
    - 3.1.6. If EDTA plasma is acceptable for the test, the whole blood can be sent in a tightly closed lavender top (K2 EDTA) tube.
  - 3.2. Acceptable sample volume is:
    - 3.2.1. Minimum 0.5 mL of serum, 1 mL is desirable volume.
    - 3.2.2. Minimum 2 mL of whole blood from venipuncture.
    - 3.2.3. Minimum 0.35 mL of whole blood from fingerstick.
  - 3.3. Specimen labeling:

Each sample must be labeled with the following:

    - **Patient's full name (last and first name)**
    - **Patient's Date of Birth**
    - **Date sample was collected**
    - **Sample type (serum or plasma).**
  - 3.4. Specimen Rejection Criteria:
    - 3.4.1. Unlabeled tubes
    - 3.4.2. Hemolyzed, lipemic, icteric or cloudy samples
4. **Sample storage prior to shipment:**
  - 4.1. Serum and plasma:
    - 4.1.1. Room temperature (18-25°C) for 24 hours.
    - 4.1.2. At 2 – 8°C for 96 hours, after that sample can be stored frozen (see 5.1.3., 5.1.4) for indefinite time.
    - 4.1.3. Frozen at -20°C or below - for indefinite time.
    - 4.1.4. Serum or plasma samples should not go through freeze-thaw cycles. Samples subject to multiple freeze-thaw cycles may yield anomalous results.
  - 4.2. Whole blood (EDTA):
    - 4.2.1. Room temperature or 2 – 8°C for 24 hours.