



## Cytokine Response Profile

### Items Included in Your Collection Kit

- 1 – Kit Box
- 1 – Test Request Form (TRF)
- 1 – SST, Serum Separator Tube (Gray/Red Top)
- 1 – Screw Top Vial
- 1 – Plastic Transfer Pipette
- 1 – Plastic “sandwich” bag
- 1 – Zip Closure Specimen Bag with Absorbent Pad
- 1 – Styrofoam Cooler
- 1 – Adhesive FedEx Billable Label
- 1 – Adhesive UN1845 Label
- 2 Ice Packs\* (Dry Ice not provided. See details below.)

SERUM COLLECTION

If you are missing any of the needed components or have questions about the collection, please call Diagnostic Solutions Laboratory Customer Service Department at 877-485-5336.


**\* DRY ICE is preferred for frozen transport. However, we have provided ice packs as an alternative when DRY ICE shipping is absolutely not possible. You may purchase DRY ICE at many local supermarket chains, including Publix, Kroger, Walmart, Costco, etc.**

# CYTOKINES-SERUM COLLECTION INSTRUCTIONS

FOLLOW INSTRUCTIONS CAREFULLY – IMPROPER COLLECTION MAY INVALIDATE RESULTS

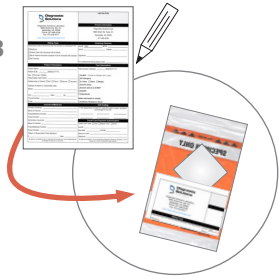
**1**

**A**



**SCREW TOP VIAL**

**B**



**NOTE: Please review all instructions and collection kit components before starting your sample collection.**

Serum sample must be shipped frozen, Monday–Thursday ONLY.

*DRY ICE (not provided) is highly recommended for transport.*


**A)** Write the Patient Name, and Date of Birth on the Screw Top Vial label with permanent marker pen.

**B)** Complete all sections of the Test Request Form, including date of collection and payment type.


Place completed Test Request Form into the document pocket outside of the specimen bag.

**4**

**A**



**B**



**A)** Secure cap on screw top vial, and place into zip closure specimen bag along with absorbent pad. Seal the bag carefully and freeze serum sample immediately. (Standard freezer is okay).

**B) IMPORTANT:** Allow serum to freeze completely for a minimum of 4 hours.\*

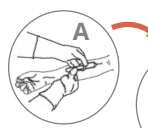
*See reverse side for alternate freezing procedure if dry ice is not available.*

*\* If you cannot ship the specimen on the day of collection, or the sample was collected on a Friday, Saturday or Sunday, please keep the sample in the freezer until you are able to ship the next day.*

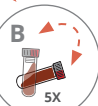
**SERUM SAMPLE MUST BE COMPLETELY FROZEN BEFORE PACKING ON DRY ICE. DO NOT PUT DRY ICE INTO THE SPECIMEN BAG.**

**2**


**A**



**B**



**C**



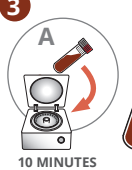
**A)** Perform blood draw into Serum Separator Tube (SST)

**B)** Gently mix by inversion 5 times.

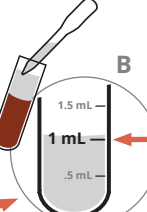
**C)** Allow the blood to clot for 30 minutes at room temperature (20-25°C).

**3**

**A**



**B**



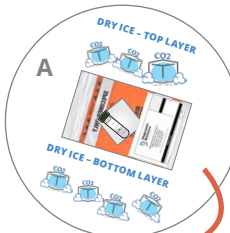
**A)** Centrifuge SST Tube at 1,100 xg for 10 minutes at room temperature (20-25°C).\*

**B)** Transfer at least 1 mL of serum into the screw top vial.

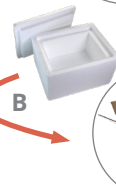
*\* Serum MUST be removed from the SST Tube within 2 hours after collection. Hemolyzed samples will be rejected upon arrival at the lab.*

**5**


**A**



**B**



**C**



**A)** Place the frozen specimen bag inside the styrofoam cooler layered in DRY ICE and fill the space in the cooler.\*

*\* DRY ICE comes in many forms. Cubes are used here for illustrative purposes.*

**B)** Place styrofoam cooler inside the cardboard kit box and tape closed.

**C)** Place check mark in the square labeled “Exempt Human Specimen” on front of the box.

Affix UN1845 DRY ICE label onto the top of the box.

Affix FedEx billable label onto the side of the box and ship to Diagnostic Solutions Laboratory for testing.\*

*\* Samples can only be shipped Monday to Thursday by overnight service.*

## SHIPPING INSTRUCTIONS: Call FedEx at 1-800-463-3339 to Schedule Your Free Pickup

1. When the automated greeting begins say, “Schedule a pickup.”
2. When asked if your label has the word “Stamp” on it, say, “Yes”
3. Your tracking number can be found on the Return Label.

**DRY ICE Recommended for Frozen Transport!**



## ALTERNATE METHOD: FROZEN ICE PACKS (PROVIDED)

We have provided ice packs as an alternative when DRY ICE shipping is absolutely not possible. You may purchase DRY ICE at many local supermarket chains, including Publix, Kroger, Walmart, Costco, etc.

Please use the DRY ICE Collection Instructions on reverse side if at all possible. Otherwise replace Steps 4–6 with the ones below for using the provided ice packs:

### ICE PACKS – ALTERNATE STEP 4



**A)** Secure cap on screw top vial and place into “sandwich” bag containing ice pack\* and seal.

**B)** Insert bag (A) into zip closure specimen bag with serum tube positioned between the 2 ice packs\* during sample freezing and shipping, and seal carefully.

*\* Ensure that serum sample is sandwiched between the two ice packs before freezing.*

*Ice packs are not needed if shipping with DRY ICE, which is the preferred method. See side 1.*

### ICE PACKS – ALTERNATE STEP 5



**A)** Place zip closure bag with all contents into the freezer (standard freezer is okay).

**IMPORTANT:** Allow serum and ice packs to freeze completely for a minimum of 4 hours.

**Items must be completely frozen prior to shipping.**

*If you cannot ship the specimen on the day of collection, or the sample was collected on a Friday, Saturday or Sunday, please keep the sample in the freezer until you are able to ship the next day.*

*Samples can only be shipped Monday to Thursday by overnight service.*

### ICE PACKS – ALTERNATE STEP 6



**A)** Place the frozen specimen bag (including the serum sample, ice packs, and completed TRF) inside the styrofoam cooler.

**B)** Place styrofoam cooler inside the cardboard kit box and tape closed.

**C)** Place check mark in the square labeled “Exempt Human Specimen” on front of box.

Affix FedEx billable label onto the top of the kit box and ship to Diagnostic Solutions Laboratory for testing.