



COVID-19 Antibody Dried Blood Spot Specimen Collection Instructions

Collection Site Preparation

1. Specimens should be collected directly by or under the supervision (or direction) of properly trained medical professionals in accordance with federal and state-level requirements.
2. The collection site must have all the supplies needed to complete a specimen collection (e.g. collection kits, ink pens, Aegis Laboratory Request Forms, shipping containers, shipping labels (if shipping via FedEx), and appropriate personal protective equipment).
3. Ensure that appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) is available and that you have been trained in proper use of PPE prior to performing specimen collection.
4. Ensure that there is a means for washing hands, suitable clean surface for the collector to use as a work area, and a secure temporary storage area for maintaining specimens until they are transferred to the laboratory.
5. To prepare the card for collection, do not completely unfold the tri-folded card. Unfold the cover flap to expose the blood spot circles, but keep the flap with the collection circles in place (with the third section of the card behind it). It is possible for blood to soak through the card, and the additional flap will provide a layer of protection to the underlying surface.
6. Ensure access to collection supplies is restricted only to the collector(s)/donor(s) and other authorized personnel.

Laboratory Request Form Completion

Complete all fields of the Laboratory Request Form

Diagnosis Code(s)

NOTE: All requisitions must have a valid ICD-10 code provided by the physician to support the medical necessity of the order.

Diagnosis codes are 3-7 characters (e.g., U07.1). The first digit is alpha, 2nd and 3rd are numeric and 4-7 can be alpha and/or numeric.

1. Codes beginning with a numeric digit are not valid. All diagnosis codes must begin with a letter.
2. Allowable codes: U07.1; Z11.59; Z03.818; Z20.828

Billing/Insurance Information

Obtain insurance information and ALWAYS validate it with the patient. Mark the appropriate check box on the Laboratory Request Form.

Requesting Provider

Select the appropriate requesting provider (Choose only one). Write in name legibly if not pre-printed.

Collector's Initials

Legibly write your initials in the box.

Date Collected

This is the Date of Service (DOS).

Patient Information

Complete patient information section in its entirety.

Specimen Type

Select the type of specimen collected.

Sample Label

Add patient name and Date of Birth to the label located at the top of the requisition. With the patient present and after completing the patient information, remove the label and place it on the specimen card directly under the 5 circles on the card.

Patient Signature

Obtain the patient's signature.

Provider Signature

Obtain the ordering provider's signature.

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COVID-19 Specimen Collection

- Disposable gloves should be worn for the whole procedure to protect the collector and protect the sample from degradation and contamination.
- Whole Blood collected via PerkinElmer NK1 Spot Saver card is the collection device for COVID-19 Antibody testing in our laboratory.
- Obtain and complete the applicable Laboratory Request Form. See previous section "Laboratory Request Form Completion."
- Check the collection kit component expiration dates. Do not use expired devices.
- Apply the label from the requisition to collection card **under the 5 circles**. See **Figure A**. The label must be completed in its entirety.
- Ensure the patient's hands are clean. If their hands are cold, instruct them to rub them together. It is important that the puncture site is warm.
- Identify and clean the puncture site.
 - Use one of the outer 2 fingers (middle or ring finger).
 - Avoid finger pad and nail bed.
 - Clean finger that has been identified for puncture site with alcohol prep pad and allow to dry.
- Break the lancet seal by twisting.
- Position the lancet firmly against the puncture site. Hold the safety lancet between two fingers.
- Firmly press down until the lancet is activated. Do not remove the device from the site until an audible click is heard.
- Safely discard the lancet in a biohazard sharps container.
- Wipe away the first spot of blood with sterile gauze. Spot the blood onto each of the 5 circles on the card as shown in **Figure B**. If blood can't be spotted on all 5 circles as shown in Figure B, please make all attempts to spot blood onto at least 3 circles. **Ensure that the blood soaks completely through the paper.** Do not hold the filter paper against the puncture site.
 - To ensure enough blood flow:
 - Collect so that your hand is below your waist, allowing gravity to assist with blood flow.
 - Apply intermittent pressure.
 - Avoid strong, repetitive pressure (milking). It may cause hemolysis or tissue-fluid contamination of the specimen.
- Hold sterile gauze against the site until the bleeding slows. Cover the site with a bandage.
- Leave the card open on a clean surface to dry for a minimum of **3 hours**. Close the card by folding top flap over the collection card with the 5 circles.
- Place the card inside the specimen bag with the desiccant pack.
- Fold and place the completed Laboratory Request Form in the back pouch of the Aegis specimen bag.
 - DO NOT seal the Laboratory Request Form in the sealed part of the pouch with the primary specimen. It is important that the specimen be in one compartment with the desiccant pack and the paperwork in the other to avoid contamination of the requisition.
- Seal the bag using the zip-top closure.
- When ready to ship, place the specimen bag with the requisition and sample inside the rigid envelope. Each rigid envelope should hold around 15 samples.
- Place the rigid envelope inside the FedEx Clinical Pack. Each FedEx Clinical Pack can hold up to 2 rigid mailer envelopes.
- Call Client Services at 800.533.7052 to schedule a FedEx or courier pickup.

Figure A



Figure B

