

Platelet Aggregation Drawing Guide

Date: January 21, 2016

Quick Reference Guide:

Specimen: 5 x Blue Top Tubes (3mL, 3.2% sodium citrate)

Processing: None (ship whole blood at room temperature)

Fasting: Yes (4 hours, minimum)

Stability: 4 hours (please call us before you draw, if possible)

How to draw a Platelet Aggregation specimen at your facility:

1. Call Machaon (510-839-5600) as soon as you've learned that a platelet aggregation test has been ordered. (We may recommend that you wait to draw the specimen until after our courier has arrived at your site.)
2. This is a FASTING draw (minimum 4 hours), so morning collections are preferable.
3. Patient should have not taken aspirin or fish oil concentrates for the last 10 days.
4. Patient should not have taken NSAIDs or antihistamine for the last 72 hours.
5. Important: please consult the ordering physician before recommending that any patient discontinue any medication in preparation for this blood draw.
6. Draw 5 blue top tubes (3mL, 3.2% sodium citrate), invert them gently and keep at room temperature. No other processing is required. (Please call for pediatric volumes or if platelet count is <100K/uL)
7. We need to receive the specimen within 2 hours of the blood draw.
8. Please phone with any questions, 510-839-5600. We're here to help!
9. Machaon Diagnostics performs platelet aggregation studies daily, Monday through Friday.