

**CPAL**Central Pennsylvania Alliance  
Laboratory

# Technical Bulletin

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## Change Of Specimen Collection and Handling - HIV Viral Load and HTLV

### 1. HIV-1 Quant bDNA

The specimen collection and handling for HIV viral load by bDNA has been changed to a more relaxed requirement in BAYER's FDA approved kit.

Tube Type	Time to Centrifugation	Plasma Handling	Plasma Storage Temp	Duration of Storage Prior to Freezing at -60°C to -80°C
K <sub>3</sub> EDTA Vacutainer	≤ 4 hours	Plasma removed from cells	2°C to 8°C	48 hours after collection
K <sub>2</sub> EDTA Vacutainer	≤ 4 hours	Plasma removed from cells	2°C to 8°C	48 hours after collection
ACD (Solution A) Vacutainer	≤ 4 hours	Plasma removed from cells	2°C to 8°C	48 hours after collection
K <sub>2</sub> EDTA PPT	≤ 2 hours	Plasma left on separator gel	Room Temperature	24 hours after collection

### 2. HTLV I/II Ab Screen

The vendor of HTLV I/II Ab Screen has updated their assay insert to include glass SST (serum separator tubes) and pouroffs from plastic SST samples as acceptable specimens (BioMerieux)

The acceptable specimens are:

Glass SST (serum separator tubes) and pouroffs from plastic SST samples.

Plasma derived from heparin, citrate, CPD, CPDA-1 or EDTA as anticoagulants may be used.

Samples from serum separator tubes and segmented blood bag tubing may be used.

Remove the serum or plasma from the clot or red cell as soon as possible to avoid hemolysis.

### Laboratory

#### Contact:

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For question about this, and other, information, call Central Pennsylvania Laboratory at 1-888-480-1422

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