



COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO HEALTH AGENCY PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY

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SPECIMEN COLLECTION & TRANSPORT INSTRUCTIONS

Syphilis Testing

SPECIMEN STORAGE & TRANSPORT

Temperature: Refrigerated (2°C - 8°C / 35.6 °F – 46.4 °F)

Maximum Holding Time:

- Serum: 5 days (time from collection to test set-up in laboratory)
- Plasma: 48 hours (time from collection to test set-up in laboratory)

Exceptions: for any exceptions to collection, storage or transport conditions, please call lab first to discuss.

KIT STORAGE

Temperature: Refrigerated (2°C - 8°C / 35.6 °F – 46.4 °F)

Expiration: Kit must be used prior to expiration date listed on kit label

ACCEPTABLE SPECIMEN TYPES

Serum: Serum is the preferred specimen. Serum can be collected using SST tubes.

Plasma: Plasma samples are acceptable. Plasma can be collected using EDTA, heparin, sodium citrate, CPD or CPDA-1, heparin or sodium citrate as anticoagulants.

TEST ORDER OPTIONS FOR THIS KIT

5035: RPR Syphilis Serology - Qualitative

5040: RPR Syphilis Serology - Quantitative

5065: Treponemal Passive Particle Agglutination (TPPA)

REJECTION CRITERIA

- Serum specimen holding time greater than 5 days at 2-8 °C
- Plasma specimens stored for longer than 48 hours
- Specimen container not labeled with patient's name, date of birth, and date and time of collection
- Specimen container not sealed properly
- Specimens that are grossly contaminated with bacteria, excessively hemolyzed or lipemic.