

SPECIMEN COLLECTION AND TRANSPORTATION POLICIES
The UAB Biochemical Genetics Laboratory
Director: J. Daniel Sharer, PhD, FACMG

1. PLASMA

- A. A fasting blood sample should be drawn in a green top (heparinized) tube and separated as quickly as possible.
- B. At least 0.5 cc plasma should be collected from the heparinized whole blood and kept frozen for transport to the lab.

2. CSF

- A. A minimum of 0.5 cc of CSF is required for analysis.
- B. CSF should be collected on ice and frozen for transport to the lab.

3. URINE

- A. Three (3) cc of urine are required for analysis. A pooled sample collected over 24 hrs is preferred, otherwise the first morning void can be used.
- B. The sample should be kept frozen for transport to the lab.

4. TRANSPORTATION TO THE LAB

- A. All samples should be kept frozen until transport. Samples should be shipped within 48 hours if possible. For delivery to the lab, samples should be packed in dry ice.
- B. The dry ice package should be sent by overnight shipping to:

UAB Biochemical Genetics Laboratory
KAUL 642, 720 20th Street South
Birmingham, AL 35294-0024
Attn: John Moore

Samples should not be shipped on Friday or Saturday because they cannot be received until Monday.

- C. Samples are run Monday through Friday.
- D. Please include the patient's clinical, dietary, and family history, along with any current medications.

Note: the lab cannot process samples that have not remained frozen during transport.

5. REPORTS AND BILLING

- A. Normal results will be faxed in about 1 week. Every effort will be made to report abnormal results as quickly as possible, usually by telephone or fax.
- B. NOTE: WE REGRET THAT WE CANNOT BILL THE PATIENT, THE REFERRING LABORATORY WILL BE CHARGED.**