Specimen Required: Patients taking calcineurin inhibitors should stop their medication 72 hours prior to draw. Patients on prednisone should be off their medication for 2 weeks prior to draw.

Collect: Plain red.

Specimen Preparation: Separate serum from cells ASAP or within 2 hours of collection. Transfer 1 mL serum to an ARUP Standard Transport tube and freeze immediately (Min: 0.5 mL) AND transfer 1 mL serum to an ARUP Standard Transport Tube. (Min: 0.5 mL)

Storage/Transport Temperature: First Specimen: CRITICAL FROZEN. Separate specimens must be submitted for this multiple test panel.

Second Specimen: Refrigerated.

Unacceptable Conditions: Specimens other than serum. Contaminated, grossly hemolyzed, or lipemic specimens.

Stability (collection to initiation of testing): First Specimen: After separation from cells: Ambient: 30 minutes; Refrigerated: Unacceptable; Frozen: 1 year (avoid repeated freeze/thaw cycles)

Second Specimen: After separation from cells: Ambient: 8 hours; Refrigerated: 1 Week; Frozen: 6 months