**Blood Smear - with Interpretation**

**Specimen Required:** Collect: Lavender (EDTA) or Green (Sodium or Lithium Heparin). Immediately invert tube several times following procurement of whole blood.

**Specimen Preparation:** Transport 5 mL whole blood and 6 unfixed push smears. (Min: 0.1 mL whole blood and 2 unfixed push smears)

**Storage/Transport Temperature:** Room temperature.

**Remarks:** Most recent CBC report, patient history, clinical indications and physician's name and telephone number are required.

An instructional video with more information on how to make an adequate slide can be found at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ca3Nwrflp$40&feature=youtu.be>

**Unacceptable Conditions:** Serum or Plasma

**Stability (collection to initiation of testing):**

- **Whole Blood:** Ambient: 48 hours; Refrigerated: 48 hours; Frozen: Unacceptable
- **Unfixed Push Smears:** Ambient: 5 days; Refrigerated: 5 days; Frozen: Unacceptable