Specimen Required:

**Collect:** Serum Separator Tube (SST).

**Specimen Preparation:** Allow specimen to clot completely at room temperature. Separate from cells ASAP or within 2 hours of collection. Transfer 2 mL serum to an ARUP Standard Transport Tube. (Min: 0.5 mL) Parallel testing is preferred and convalescent specimens must be received within 30 days from receipt of the acute specimens.

**Storage/Transport Temperature:** Refrigerated.

**Remarks:** Label specimens plainly as “acute” or “convalescent.”

**Unacceptable Conditions:** Contaminated, heat-inactivated or grossly hemolyzed specimens.

**Stability (collection to initiation of testing):** After separation from cells: Ambient: 48 hours; Refrigerated: 2 weeks; Frozen: 1 year (Avoid repeated freeze/thaw cycles)