**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: 1 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:** Mark specimens plainly as "acute" or "convalescent."

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

**HOTLINE NOTE:** Remove information found in the Unacceptable Conditions field.