Specimen Required: Collect: Lavender (K$_2$EDTA), Pink (K$_2$EDTA), or Serum Separator Tube (SST). Also acceptable: Bone marrow aspirate in Lavender (K$_2$EDTA) or Pink (K$_2$EDTA), OR CSF or tissue.

Specimen Preparation: Transfer 1 mL whole blood, bone marrow or CSF to a sterile container. (Min: 0.5 mL)

Serum or Plasma: Separate from cells ASAP or within 2 hours of collection. Transfer 1 mL serum, plasma to a sterile container. (Min: 0.5 mL)

Tissue: Transfer to sterile container and freeze immediately.

Storage/Transport Temperature: Whole Blood or Bone Marrow: Refrigerated.

All others: Frozen.

Remarks: Specimen source required.

Unacceptable Conditions: Heparinized specimens.

Stability (collection to initiation of testing): Whole Blood or Bone Marrow: Ambient: 1 week; Refrigerated: 1 week; Frozen: 1 week.

Fresh Tissue: Ambient: Unacceptable; Refrigerated: Unacceptable; Frozen: 1 year

All others: Ambient: 24 hours; Refrigerated: 5 days; Frozen: 1 year