

# PRACTICE TIPS: Vitamin C stabilisation (E530)

Prevents  
degradation  
during  
transport

As vitamin C is a very sensitive molecule that quickly breaks down through oxidation and other chemical processes, stabilisation is advisable. In particular, if the unstabilised value is repeatedly very low, it is advisable to check it by adding special stabilisers. Only stabilised samples allow reliable quantitative analysis of the actual vitamin C content in plasma, e.g. using HPLC (High Performance Liquid Chromatography).

## Sample preparation

You will need:

- 1 Heparin tube
- 1 Precipitation tube with vitamin C precipitation reagent  
(Must be stored in the refrigerator!)
- 1 Pasteur pipette



All materials can be ordered  
using our order form.

## Purpose:

Vitamin C precipitation reagent is used to stabilise heparin samples by medical professionals in medical facilities. The vitamin C precipitation reagent enables laboratory diagnostic determination of vitamin C by biovis Diagnostik MVZ GmbH. It is not intended for immediate self-interpretation. Further information on the intended use and safety instructions in accordance with Regulations (EU) 2017/745 and 2017/746 can be found at the end of the instructions.



### DID YOU KNOW?

Vitamin C is extremely sensitive to light. It is essential to store the heparin in light-protected packaging immediately after blood collection and during further processing.

We provide light-protected, dark transport tubes for shipping.

Tip: Wrap the tube in aluminium foil during blood collection and place it in the centrifuge with the aluminium foil.

After pipetting, immediately pack the precipitation reagent in a dark transport tube!



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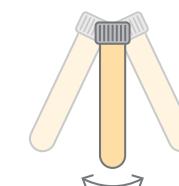
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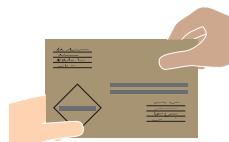
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# Test procedure:

1. Take a heparin tube from the patient.
2. The heparin must then be centrifuged immediately.  
→ 10 minutes at 3000-4000 rpm.
3. If you do not have a centrifuge, in exceptional cases the tube can be left standing upright until a clear plasma supernatant is present.
4. Using the Pasteur pipette, transfer 1 ml of the resulting plasma into the prepared precipitation tube. The remaining heparin tube can then be discarded.
5. The precipitation tube must then be homogenised. To do this, please swirl the tube several times. If you have a vortex mixer to hand, the precipitation reagent can also be homogenised on this for 20-30 seconds.
6. Now affix a barcode to the tube and immediately pack it in a dark transport tube to protect it from light.
7. If you do not send the sample immediately, it must be stored in a cool place (2-8 °C) and protected from light until dispatch. However, please send the sample on the same day if possible.
8. Place the sample tube in the transport tube together with the completed request form signed by the patient in the mailing bag (for postal delivery) or in a safety bag (for courier service).
9. Take the mailing bag to a post office on the same day or give the safety bag to your courier service.



2-8 °C



**Please do not send on a Friday, at the weekend or on public holidays, and do not put it in the post box.**

**NOTE:**

**Please observe the country-specific shipping conditions. These may differ from the procedure described here.**



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## Intended use according to Regulation (EU) 2017/746 (IVDR)

- The stabilising reagent vitamin C is a medical in vitro diagnostic (IVD) in accordance with Regulation (EU) 2017/746 on in vitro diagnostic medical devices (IVDR). It is used for the standardised stabilisation of a heparin sample by medical professionals for the subsequent determination of vitamin C. The qualitative analysis is carried out exclusively in the laboratory of biovis Diagnostik MVZ GmbH and is used as a diagnostic aid in cases of suspected vitamin C deficiency.
- The product is intended for single use within medical facilities.

- Samples are taken in accordance with the enclosed instructions.
- The vitamin C precipitation reagent is not intended for immediate point-of-care diagnosis or for self-interpretation by the user, but explicitly for sample collection with subsequent laboratory testing. The samples must be sent exclusively to biovis Diagnostik MVZ GmbH. They are intended exclusively for analysis by biovis Diagnostik MVZ GmbH in accordance with the valid service specifications. The test results are interpreted by medical professionals.

## Restrictions and safety instructions for the use of the vitamin C precipitation reagent in accordance with Regulation (EU) 2017/745 (MDR) and 2017/746 (IVDR):

- Only use the vitamin C precipitation reagent in accordance with the instructions. Read the enclosed instructions for use carefully and follow all steps exactly. Improper use or inadequately labelled samples may lead to invalid test results.
- Store the vitamin C precipitation reagent in a cool, dry place protected from light. The storage temperature is 2-8 °C.
- Ensure that the vitamin C precipitation reagent is kept out of the reach of children.
- Do not use after the expiry date. The expiry date is indicated on the label of the vitamin C precipitation reagent.
- Do not use if the packaging is damaged or incomplete.
- The vitamin C precipitation reagent is intended for single use only by medical professionals to stabilise a heparin sample and has no

analytical function of its own; it is not intended for use as a self-test for diagnosis. Reuse may lead to false results and, under certain circumstances, to health risks.

- Avoid direct contact with skin and mucous membranes. Wash your hands thoroughly with soap and water before and after taking the sample.
- Samples should be returned on the day of collection if possible. Until dispatch, the filled sample must be stored in a refrigerator (2-8 °C).
- No shipping on Fridays, weekends, or public holidays.
- After use, dispose of the remaining components (waste) in accordance with local regulations for household waste.

## Disclaimer:

biovis Diagnostik MVZ GmbH accepts no responsibility for incorrect or unevaluable results arising from improper use, incomplete or incorrectly labelled samples, failure to follow the instructions, or unsuitable storage or shipping conditions. The test is carried out at your own risk. The vitamin C precipitation reagent is intended exclusively for standardised sample collection for subsequent analysis in the responsible laboratory. The diagnosis and interpretation of the results is the sole responsibility of medical professionals. The product is not intended for self-analysis. Use outside the intended scope of application is not permitted.

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 Order number. STABVITC1ML

 Storage temperature 2-8°C

 Only for taking samples, if the sample is sent to biovis Diagnostik MVZ GmbH for examination and analysed there in accordance with the current specifications.

 In-house medical device of biovis Diagnostik MVZ GmbH according to Regulation (EU) 2017/745 (MDR) and 2017/746 (IVDR).

 Batch number - see label on stabilising reagent vitamin C

 Use by - see sticker stabilising reagent vitamin C