PRACTICE TIPS:
Frozen samples

biovis material order form

For a reliable analysis, it is crucial that blood samples are **frozen correctly and transported frozen.** This is the only way to guarantee the sample quality until they arrive at the laboratory.

- Only correctly frozen and sufficiently cooled samples can be **analysed validly.**
- Insufficiently cooled or thawed samples **cannot be evaluated.**
- All parameters that must be sent in frozen are marked with a 'g' on the request form.
- Before freezing, the sample must always be centrifuged and pipetted first!

Implementation:

General preparations

1. Place the **special transport box** (freezer container) for frozen samples in the **freezer compartment at -20 °C** (or colder) **at least 1-2 days** before the blood sample is taken. Make sure that it is lying flat on its side.

2. Please inform the transport service the day before about the sample collection. (+49 (0) 821 4201 -210).

Preparation of samples

3. Take blood from the patient in the appropriate blood tube.

4. Afterwards, the blood must be centrifuged:
   →**Serum:** Let it **rest upright** for at least 30 minutes/maximum 1 hour, then centrifuge for **10 minutes at 3000-4000 rpm**.

   →**EDTA/heparin/citrate: immediately** after blood collection, centrifuge for **10 minutes at 3000-4000 rpm**.

   If you do not have a centrifuge, in exceptional cases the tube can be left standing upright until a clear plasma supernatant is present.

10 min at
3000-4000 rpm

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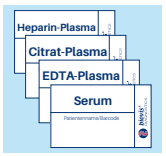
5. Use a transfer pipette to transfer the **resulting serum or plasma** to a **centrifuge tube**. The blood clot can then be discarded. Ensure that the tube is tightly closed.

6. Label the tube with both an appropriate **sticker for centrifuge tubes** (serum/EDTA plasma/heparin plasma/citrate plasma) and a **barcode**.



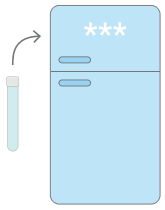
sticker for centrifuge tubes

Freezing of the sample(s)

1. Freeze the pipetted sample **immediately at -20 °C or colder.** The sample must be **stored upright**!

2. The sample must be **completely frozen** before dispatch! The time required may vary depending on the amount of material, but should be at least 2 hours. **If in doubt, freeze for longer**!

Tip: If it is expected that further frozen samples will be sent in the following days, please store them together in the freezer and send them all together. When completely frozen, the samples usually remain stable and can still be reliably examined even after one to two weeks.



At least 2 hours at -20 °C
The sample must be fully frozen!

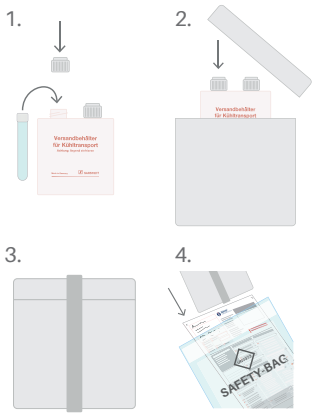
Shipping

1. Place the frozen sample in the completely frozen freezer container **immediately before shipping** and seal it tightly with the screw cap.

2. Then place the freezer container inside the **polystyrene container** and close it with the lid. Secure it by stretching the elastic band around the polystyrene container.

3. Place the **sealed polystyrene box**, the completed **request form** signed by the patient, and any other test samples from the patient in a **safety bag** and hand it over to your **transport service**.

4. Only send frozen samples from **Monday to Wednesday** to ensure delivery before the weekend.



DID YOU KNOW?

You can arrange the transport service by calling our head office: 06431-21248-0

The freezer containers and the accompanying polystyrene boxes are reusable and are shuttled between practices until they reach their expiry date.

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