
LAB ALERT – SPECIMEN COLLECTION AND PREPARATION CHANGE

NOTIFICATION DATE: 10/24/2013

EFFECTIVE DATE: 11/18/2013

VITAMIN C (ASCORBIC ACID), PLASMA

TEST CODE:	VITAC
INTERFACE CODE:	1001399
REASON FOR CHANGE:	Collection tube containing 40 mg oxalic acid is no longer required; however, light protection has been added to preparation
COLLECTION:	Green (no gel) (sodium or lithium heparin). Place specimen in ice bath immediately. Also acceptable: Plasma separator tube.
SPECIMEN PREPARATION:	Centrifuge, and transfer plasma and freeze within 1 hour of collection. Transfer 0.5 mL plasma to a Standard Amber Transport Tube. (Min: 0.3 ml)
STABILITY (FROM COLLECTION TO INITIATION OF TESTING)	After separation from cells: Ambient: Unacceptable; Refrigerated: Unacceptable; Frozen and light protected: 1 month
TRANSPORT:	CRITICAL FROZEN AND LIGHT PROTECTED. Separate specimens must be submitted when multiple tests are ordered.
REMARKS:	Thawing and refreezing of the specimen and exposure to light will result in decreased Vitamin C concentration.
UNACCEPTABLE CONDITIONS:	Body fluids other than frozen, light-protected, heparinized plasma. Grossly hemolyzed plasma.
NOTE:	ARUP will continue to accept specimens submitted in tubes with oxalic acid preservative but will no longer require the preservative if the specimen has been frozen and protected from light. EDTA plasma is no longer accepted.
PERFORMING LAB:	ARUP Laboratories

ORDER/CONTACT INFORMATION: *ClearPoint Client Services: 972-966-7700 | Fax: 972-966-7799*