



Laboratory Technical Bulletin

ALDOSTERONE BY MASS SPECTROMETRY: CHANGE IN SAMPLE TYPE TO EDTA PLASMA

May 13 2016

SAMPLE TYPE

EDTA plasma

COLLECTION

Pre-chill tube,
keep tube on ice,
spin cold,
freeze immediately

SHIPPING

Ship frozen

MINIMUM VOLUME

- 400 μ L for aldosterone only
- 750 μ L for aldosterone and PRA together

Starting June 01 2016, St. Paul's Hospital will change the preferred sample type for peripheral blood **aldosterone** determination from red top serum to **EDTA plasma**. The motivation for this change is to allow the determination of aldosterone and plasma renin activity (PRA) from a single sample and to avoid inadvertent PRA analysis on serum samples, which results in spuriously undetectable results [1]. Red top serum remains an acceptable alternative sample type for aldosterone ordered in isolation. However, going forward, when aldosterone is ordered concomitantly with PRA and both serum and EDTA plasma are submitted, aldosterone and PRA will be performed on the EDTA plasma where possible. For simplicity this means that the aldosterone and PRA sample collection requirements should be identical.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact either Dr. Mattman at 604 806 8190 or Dr. Holmes at 604 806 8919.

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REFERENCE

- [1] Haymond S, Clarke NJ, Reitz RE, McPhaul MJ, Wu Z. Plasma renin activity: the importance of correct sample type. Clin Chem 2016;62:408-9.