

**INSTRUCTIONS FOR BLOOD TOXICOLOGY SPECIMEN COLLECTION**

**IMPORTANT: Steps 1 through 7 are to be performed by appropriate laboratory/medical personnel only and under direct supervision of the investigating officer.**

Step 1 Remove all components from kit and place on tabletop.

Step 2 Fill out all information on the two specimen seals provided (needs to be the same and legible).

A white paper with black text

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Step 3 Clearly label the specimen tubes with patient name.

*Any other patient identifier listed on the specimen tube needs to be documented on the requisition form.*

A hand holding a tube with a white substance

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**BLOOD SPECIMEN COLLECTION**

Step 4 Cleanse the blood withdrawal site with the non-alcohol prep pad. Using normal hospital / clinic

procedure, withdraw blood specimen from subject.

**Fill both tubes to maximum volume (~8 mL).**

Step 5 Immediately after blood collection, assure proper mixing of preservative and anticoagulant

powder by slowly and completely inverting the blood tubes at least five times.

**Do not shake vigorously.**

A close-up of a tube

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Step 6 Place the labeled specimen seals over the top of the tube, firmly pressing sides of seal over both sides of the tube. Return the filled and labeled blood tubes to the foam tube holder.

Step 7 Transfer the foam tube holder and the kit to the investigating officer.

**INSTRUCTIONS FOR INVESTIGATING OFFICER**

Step A Fill out all information requested on the NMS Labs Requisition (provided separately), verifying

patient identifiers match between samples and requisition form, then sign and date the chain of

custody found on bottom of requisition.

Step B Remove the plastic specimen bag and evidence tape seal from kit.

Step C Place foam tube holder (containing blood tubes) in the front pocket of the plastic specimen bag.

Note: Do not remove absorbing sheet.

Step D Place the NMS Labs requisition in the rear pocket of the plastic specimen bag.

Step E Seal the plastic specimen bag as per the instructions on the bag and place into kit.

Step F Seal the kit by affixing the red Evidence Seal tape where indicated. Initial and date edge of seal.

Note: This case is now considered Chain of Custody sealed.

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Step G Ship or hand deliver kit to NMS Labs as soon as possible for analysis.