Naviaux ALS Study #140072

Phlebotomy and Sample Processing Orders

Phlebotomy

1. 4 ml of venous blood drawn into a lithium-heparin vacutainer tube (green-top tube; without gel separator [use of a gel separator tube is not acceptable]; 13 x 75 mm; BD #367884; not sodium-heparin)
    a. Gently invert x 10 to mix
    b. Keep at room temperature until plasma separation. Do not refrigerate. Refrigeration can activate platelets.
    c. Separate plasma by centrifugation within 1 hour of whole blood collection

2. 2.5 ml of venous blood drawn into a PAXGene RNA tube kept in an upright position for at least 10 seconds for full collection during venipuncture (16 x 100 mm with 6.9 ml of preservative; BD #762165). See attached "PAXGene tube blood collection guide"
    a. Gently invert x 10 to mix
    b. Be sure the PAXGene tube is labeled with: patient name, date, time, and "Naviaux ALS Study"

Sample Processing

1. Green-top tubes for plasma
    a. Centrifuge for 10 minutes at 900 g (typically about 1200-1500 rpm for most clinical centrifuges). Do not centrifuge for longer than 10 minutes.
    b. Using a sterile transfer pipet or Pipetman, transfer and divide the plasma into two, (not one) 1.8 ml Nunc cryotubes (Thermo, #375418)
    c. Label the tubes with: patient name, date, time, and "Naviaux ALS Study"

2. PAXGene RNA tubes
    a. No further processing is required

Sample Storage

1. Plasma in labeled cryotubes
    a. Store at -70˚ to -80˚C until the total set of 120 patient samples (30 subjects x 4 samples/subject x 2 tubes/sample time = 240 cryotubes) has been collected. -20˚C storage is not acceptable.

2. PAXGene RNA tubes
    a. Store at -70˚ to -80˚C until the total set of 120 PAXGene tubes (30 subjects x 4 samples/subject) has been collected

Sample Shipment

1. When the completed set of samples is ready for shipment, please email Dr. Naviaux at rnaviaux@health.ucsd.edu before shipping to alert Naviaux Lab personnel at UCSD and to coordinate shipping.

a. Plan to ship on a Monday or Tuesday to ensure the samples DO NOT arrive on a weekend.
    i. **WARNING**: Weekend delivery can result in samples being stored in a non-refrigerated FEDEx warehouse for several days and can result in a complete loss of all samples.

2. After receiving email confirmation from the Naviaux Lab, ship the samples on at least 10 pounds of dry ice in a Styrofoam box with inner dimensions of at least 6" x 8" x 9" by FedEx overnight to:

    Dr. Robert K. Naviaux, MD, PhD
    UCSD School of Medicine
    214 Dickinson St., Room C107
    San Diego, CA 92103
    Cell: 619-993-2904

    FedEx account #1034-4986-3

Be sure to include "Room C107" in the address. Failure to do this will result in failed deliveries.