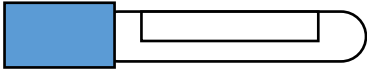
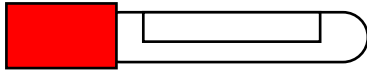
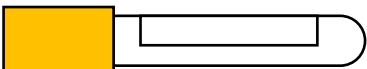
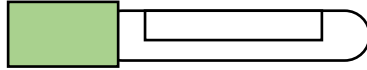
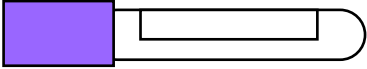
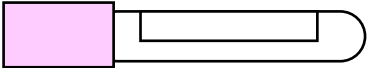
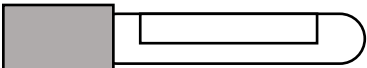
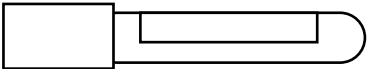
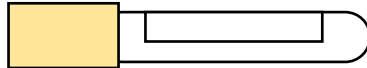


MHC Laboratories Specimen Processing and Storage

General processing instruction unless otherwise specified:

Blood:

- Process and store according to chart below unless otherwise specified:

Tube Type	Processing	Storage
Sodium Citrate (blue top) 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Mix by gently inverting tube 8 – 10 times Keep at ambient temperature 	Ambient (Room Temperature)
Serum (red top) 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Mix by gently inverting tube 8 – 10 times Allow to clot for 30 minutes Within 2 hours' centrifuge for 10 minutes Remove serum from cells Refrigerate 2°C to 8°C serum promptly 	Ambient prior to centrifugation then refrigerate 2°C to 8°C
SST (gold top gel tube) 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Mix by gently inverting tube 8 – 10 times Allow to clot for 30 minutes Within 2 hours' centrifuge for 10 minutes Refrigerate 2°C to 8°C 	Ambient prior to centrifugation then refrigerate 2°C to 8°C
PST (green top gel tube) 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Mix by gently inverting tube 8 – 10 times Within 2 hours' centrifuge for 10 minutes Refrigerate 2°C to 8°C 	Ambient prior to centrifugation then refrigerate 2°C to 8°C
EDTA (purple top) 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Mix by gently inverting tube 8 – 10 times Do not centrifuge! Refrigerate 2°C to 8°C 	Refrigerate 2°C to 8°C
EDTA (pink top –blood bank) 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Mix by gently inverting tube 8 – 10 times Do not centrifuge! Refrigerate 2°C to 8°C 	Refrigerate 2°C to 8°C
Fluoride/Oxalate (grey top) 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Mix by gently inverting tube 8 – 10 times Do not centrifuge! Refrigerate 2°C to 8°C 	Refrigerate 2°C to 8°C
EDTA (white top) 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Mix by gently inverting tube 8 – 10 times Immediately centrifuge for 10 minutes Immediately refrigerate 2°C to 8°C 	Refrigerate 2°C to 8°C
ACD (yellow top) 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Mix by gently inverting tube 8 – 10 times Do not centrifuge! Keep at ambient temperature 	Ambient (Room Temperature)

Urine and other Body Fluids:

- Refrigerate 2°C to 8°C promptly after collection. For timed urine specimens keep refrigerated 2°C to 8°C throughout collection and during transport.

Microbiology Specimens:

- See Microbiology Guide for processing and storage information.

Tissue:

- Collect in container with 10% formalin for anatomic pathology studies.
- For culture, collect in a clean, sterile container. Store at Ambient (Room Temperature) after collection.

Paps, ThinPrep® Vials and/or Slides:

- Store at ambient (Room Temperature) after collection.

Preparing Specimens for Transport:

- Place each patient's specimens into 1 bio bag, and press along the top edge to completely seal the bag. Fold the laboratory requisition and copy of patient demographics including insurance information and place inside the outer pocket of the bio bag. Store bag at appropriate temperature until transportation to the laboratory.
- Leakproof containers are provided by the laboratory for collection and transport of specimens. Please be sure that screw-on lids are tightened (avoid overtightening which can result in leakage).
- SHARPS® used during collection must be removed before transport. For syringe specimens, replace the needle with a Luer-tip cap