

Ionised Calcium

SAMPLE REQUIRED:

Spun gold top serum tube (see below), minimum 3ml

BLOOD TUBE REQUIRED:

Serum tube, gold top

Indications:

- Evaluation of unexplained hypercalcaemia or hypocalcaemia.

Collection Protocols:

1. SST (serum separation tubes which contain gel) vacutainer tubes should be used into which a whole blood sample (ideally of at least 3 mls) should be placed without uncapping lid (i.e. by inserting the needle through the cap of the tube).
2. The sample should then be gently inverted 8-10 times and centrifuged 15-30 minutes after collection.
3. Make sure that SST sample tube is not uncapped at any stage prior to testing – seal the tube with tape prior to submission.
4. Wrap the SST sample (after having centrifuged the sample) in “glad-wrap” or tape the cap shut, place in specimen collection bag and keep refrigerated.

Notes

- Anaerobic collection of the sample is vital. Uncapping of the sample at any time prior to testing will affect the sample pH and the resulting ionised calcium result.
- Freezing of the sample is not required.
- This is the only testing to be performed on this sample. If additional testing is required for the patient please submit additional samples in a separate submission bag with a separate request form.