MicroHCT Centrifuge Calibration Optimum Packing Time

Policy

This procedure determines the minimum centrifugation time to yield the optimum packing of cells.

Safety

All specimens, reagents and controls should be handled as though capable of transmitting infectious diseases. Wear appropriate personal protective equipment when running patient samples or performing scheduled maintenance. Refer to: Policy and Procedures Safety Manual Infection Control and Procedures 11-085-01.

Materials and Reagents

Adams Microhematocrit Centrifuge
Damon Micro Capillary Reader
Critoseal
Hematocrit Tubes

Specimen

Whole blood should be collected in EDTA-2K or EDTA-3K anticoagulant.

Procedure

Follow the steps below to do:

A. Precision Check

Step	Action
1	Obtain 3 EDTA specimens from Hematology Department.
2	Fill 5 capillary tubes with each specimen (total of 15).
3	Spin one capillary tube of each specimen (set of 3) for 2 minutes. Then spin another set for 2.5 minutes, then another set for 3.0 minutes, 3.5 and 4.0 minutes.
4	Read the hematocrit and record on the calibration sheet.
5	The optimum packing time is determined as 0.5 minutes beyond the time at which all hematocrit values remain the same.
6	This procedure should be performed annually, after instrument service, repair or replacement.

Reference

Laboratory Instrument Maintenance and Function Verification Published by the College of American Pathologists, 1974, page 77.

Document History Page

Change type: New, Major, Minor etc.	Changes Made to SOP – describe	Name of responsible person/date	Med. Dir. Reviewed/ Date	Lab Manager reviewed/ date	Date change Implemented
Minor	Updated format, revised index number and moved to Hematology QC policies.	Julius Salomon, 7/1/17			