

Guidelines for Specimen Acceptability Volume Requirements

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Clinical Significance: This guideline covers the parameters for the volume requiremenst of an acceptable specimen for coagulation testing. Anticoagulant concentration and volume and specimen (blood) volume, are variables that may affect coagulation testing results.

Principle: This procedures provides the performance guidelines for assessing the acceptable fill volume for 3.2 % Sodium Citrate collection tubes that may be used in the coagulation laboratory.

Acceptable Specimen:

A specimen collected in 3.2% Sodium Citrate is acceptable for coagulation testing if it meets the requirements for volume, hematocrit is less than 56%, is not more than 4 hours old* and is not clotted.

*Only specimens for PT and Ddimer testing are stable for up to 24 hours at Room Temperature

Acceptable Volume Requirements: 3.2% Sodium Citrate blood vacutainer tubes

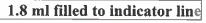
- 4.5 ml and 2.7 ml vacutainer tubes: Acceptable specimen is filled within the +/- 10% range of the stated vacuum fill volume of the blue top tube as shown
- 1.8 ml vacutainer tubes: exact fill to indicator line is acceptable

4.5 ml +/- 10 % and 2.7ml +/- 10%

Maximum Fill
Indicator

Row with
Minimum Fill
Indicator

Represents murnus
volume of blood





Underfilled: QNS (Quantity Not Sufficient)
 Specimen does not meet minimum fill requirement

required for

Overfilled: Specimen is filled beyond the maximum fill line

References:

Becton Dickinson: Package Insert Sodium Citrate Vacutainer Fill guidelines, 2002 Clinical and Laboratory Standards Institute (CLSI). Collection, Transport, and Processing of Blood Specimens for Testing Plasma-Based Coagulation Assays and Molecular Hemostasis asssys—5th Edition; Approved Guideline. NCCLS document H21-A5, 2008