



Test Update Coagulation Specimen Rejection Criteria

Inadequate filling of sodium citrate (blue top) tubes used for coagulation studies may cause inaccurate results. The Laboratory has recently re-evaluated the effect of under-filling of citrate tubes and revised its criteria for accepting samples taking into account the need to balance rapid turn-around of basic tests to insure optimal patient care and accuracy of test results that are used to guide patient management.

Effective December 5, 2011:

Coagulation Test	Criteria for rejection	Optimum Tube fill volume (blue top tubes)
Prothrombin Time (PT)/INR	Tube fill volumes less than 70% will be considered unacceptable and cancelled as Quantity Non-Sufficient (QNS).	90 – 100%
Activated Partial Thromboplastin (PTT), Factor VIII, Factor IX and Fibrinogen.	Tube fill volumes less than 70% will be considered unacceptable and cancelled as Quantity Non-Sufficient (QNS).	90 – 100% *If volume is <90%, the results will have the following comment added: "Low volume, results may be unreliable."
Antithrombin III Activity, Heparin and Low Molecular Weight Heparin Levels, Thrombin Time and D-Dimer.	Tube fill volumes less than 90% will be considered unacceptable and cancelled as Quantity Non-Sufficient (QNS).	90 – 100%
All other special coagulation tests requests, including: Factors II, V, VII, X, VWF Ag, VWF Activity, VWF Multimers, XI, XII, XIII, Inhibitors, ELT, Plasminogen, Alpha 2 Antiplasmin, Fibrinogen Ag, Protein C Activity and Ag, Protein S Activity and Ag, APC resistance, HIT ELISA and Platelet Aggregations.	Tube fill volumes less than 90% will be considered unacceptable and cancelled as Quantity Non-Sufficient (QNS).	90 – 100%

Please contact Stuart Lind, MD, at 303-724-1383 if you have any questions, or visit our website at <http://www.uch.edu/for-healthcare-professional/Clinical-Laboratory/index.aspx> for additional information.

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