



# Edmonton Diagnostic Services Immunohematology Referral Testing Services

## Direct Antiglobulin Test (DAT)

AB\_REF-03

### TEST DESCRIPTION

This test is performed to determine whether a patient's red blood cells have been sensitized in vivo with immunoglobulin, complement, or both. The DAT is used most commonly to investigate possible hemolytic transfusion reactions, Hemolytic Disease of the Fetus and Newborn (HDFN), autoimmune hemolytic anemia, and drug-induced immune hemolysis. The clinical significance of a DAT result should take into consideration the patient's clinical history, diagnoses, and other laboratory test results.

### SPECIMEN AND REQUISITION REQUIREMENTS

#### Specimen(s)

- Mother: One (1) 6 ml EDTA (lavender) tube, mixed thoroughly by gentle agitation.
- Cord: One (1) 6 - 10 ml clotted (red top) tube
- Neonate: 1ml EDTA tube or 1 microtainer EDTA tube with minimum volume 250 microlitres, mixed thoroughly by gentle agitation.
- Label specimens with the required minimum information: patient's last name, first name, PHN or Unique Lifetime Identifier (ULI) and date of collection.

#### Complete Requisition (must include)

- Patient's last name, first name, date of birth and PHN or ULI
- Facility name, complete address, phone and fax number
- Phlebotomist ID information
- Date of collection

#### Requisition(s)

- *Request for Serological Investigation Requisition\_AB*

### PRE-SHIPING STORAGE

Recommended Refrigeration 1-10°C.

### SHIPPING INSTRUCTIONS

Submit samples as soon as possible after collection.

#### Shipping

- Ship in a container that will maintain temperature at  $\geq 1^{\circ}\text{C}$ .
- Select shipping method for container to arrive at testing site within 48 hours.

**Note:** *Protect from freezing.*

### SEND TO

Canadian Blood Services  
Edmonton Centre  
8249 114 St NW  
Edmonton, AB T6G 2R8  
Attention: Diagnostic Services Laboratory  
Tel: 780-431-8765  
Fax: 780-431-8747