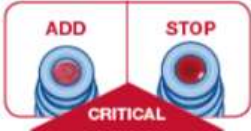


The quality of laboratory results is highly dependent upon proper specimen collection and handling. Listed below are specimen requirements, collection, handling, and shipping procedures for tests performed by DxTerity Diagnostics.

Specimen Type	Type I IFN Assay	Storage	Transportation*	Collection Procedure
Whole Blood	DxCollect® Blood Collection Tube (BCT)	Ambient temperature (15°C to 30°C) for up to 14 days post collection. Freeze at -20°C (-15°C to -30°C) to -70°C (-15°C to -30°C) for long term.	If stored at ambient: ship at ambient temperature. If frozen: ship frozen on dry ice.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> It is recommended that the DxCollect® BCT be equilibrated to collection room temperature prior to use. Use of a Blood Collection Set is recommended. If the DxCollect® BCT is the only/first tube being drawn, then a “discard tube” is required. Collect blood into the DxCollect® BCT using phlebotomy best practices. To prevent possible backflow, the following collection techniques are recommended: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Place donor’s arm in a downward position. Hold tube in a vertical position, below the donor’s arm during blood collection. Release tourniquet as soon as blood starts to flow into tube. Make sure tube additive does not touch stopper or end of the needle during venipuncture. Allow approximately 10 seconds for a complete blood draw to take place. Ensure that the blood has stopped flowing into the tube before removing the tube. The DxCollect® BCT with its vacuum is designed to draw approximately 1.0 ml of blood into the tube. Immediately after blood collection, invert the DxCollect® BCT 8–10 times. It is recommended to store the DxCollect® BCTs upright at room temperature after collection for a minimum of 2 hours and a maximum of 14 days before processing or transferring to refrigerator (2–8°C) or freezer (-20°C) for longer term storage. <p>Freezing Procedure After Blood Collection:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Stand the DxCollect® BCT upright in a wire rack or equivalent and place into a freezer. Do not freeze tubes in a Styrofoam tray as this may cause the tubes to crack. The DxCollect® BCT can be stored at -20°C and below. If tubes are to be kept at temperatures below -20°C, freeze them first at -20°C for approximately 24 hours, then transfer them to -70°C or below. <p>NOTE: The frozen DxCollect® BCT are subject to breakage upon impact. To reduce the risk of breakage during storage and shipment, frozen tubes should be treated in the same manner as glass tubes.</p>
Whole Blood	DxCollect® MicroCollection Device (MCD)	Ambient temperature (15°C to 30°C) for up to 14 days post collection. Freeze in covered boxes at -20°C (-15°C to -30°C) for long term.	If stored at ambient: ship at ambient temperature. If frozen: ship frozen on dry ice	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Massage hand to improve circulation. Wipe finger with alcohol prep pad and let it air dry. Remove lancet’s protective cap. Press thumb against the finger to support the finger. Wipe away small first blood drop with gauze. Press finger gently to encourage blood flow. Touch blood drops to the sponge in the blue Collector. Continue to collect 5–10 drops of blood. CONTINUE COLLECTING BLOOD until the sponge is full (refer to the image provided). Hold the white Transport Tube OPEN END UP, and the blue Collector sponge side DOWN. Insert the Collector immediately into the Transport Tube and slowly and evenly screw completely closed with a “click,” and then stop. Once inserted, screw until completely closed. Incomplete closure will result in leakage and loss of blood sample. Cover lanced finger with bandage. Place sealed Collector and Transport Tube into the specimen bag and seal. 
Whole Blood	PAXgene® Blood RNA Tubes	Ambient temperature (15°C to 30°C) for up to 72 hours post collection. Refrigerated (2–8°C) for up to 5 days. Frozen at -20°C (-15°C to -30°C) to -70°C (-40°C to -80°C) for up to 8 years.	Ship frozen on dry ice.	<p>CAUTION: PAXgene® Blood RNA tubes contain a chemical additive. It is important to avoid backflow from the tube to eliminate possible patient adverse reactions.</p> <p>NOTE: Must use a butterfly needle set for collection. You must NOT draw blood directly from the needle into the PAXgene® Blood RNA tube. You must NOT use a syringe to draw blood and then add it to the tube. It is important that the PAXgene® Blood RNA tube is at room temperature (18–25°C) prior to use.</p> <p>DRAW THIS TUBE LAST. If the PAXgene® Blood RNA tube is the only tube required, collect blood into a 2.0 mL discard tube prior to collecting the PAXgene® Blood RNA tube.</p> <p>The following techniques shall be used to prevent possible backflow:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Place the donor’s arm in a downward position. Hold tube in a vertical position, BELOW the donor’s arm during blood collection. Release tourniquet as soon as blood starts to flow into tube. Make sure tube additives do not touch stopper or end of the needle during venipuncture. Ensure that blood has stopped flowing into the PAXgene® Blood RNA tube before removing the tube from the holder (at least 10 seconds). Gently invert the PAXgene® Blood RNA tube 8–10 times. <p>Freezing Procedure After Blood Collection</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Stand the PAXgene® Blood RNA tube upright in a wire rack. Do not freeze tubes upright in a Styrofoam tray as this may cause the tubes to crack. If tubes are to be kept at temperatures below -20°C, freeze them first at -20°C for 24 hours, then transfer them to -70°C. <p>NOTE: The frozen PAXgene® Blood RNA tubes are subject to breakage upon impact. To reduce the risk of breaking during shipment, frozen tubes should be treated in the same manner as glass tubes.</p>
Extracted RNA	Minimum of 25ng of RNA	Frozen at -70°C (-40°C to -80°C).	Ship frozen on dry ice.	RNA must be extracted in a CLIA-certified laboratory or a laboratory meeting equivalent requirements as determined by the CAP and/or CMS.

* Ship on the same day whenever possible, with Overnight Freight Service.