

**Considerations to carry out the test:**

1.- Anticoagulant used:

1.1.- Tubes VSG: tubes with anticoagulant 4NC- Citrate 3Na (approx. 0.106M), at the ratio of 4 volumes of blood to 1 of the additive.

1.2.- Tubes with anticoagulant EDTA: is recommended after that diluting the sample with a solution of Citrate 3Na (approx. 0.106M) or solution of NaCl (0.145 mol/l). In both cases mixing 4 volumes of blood with 1 volume of solution.

It is important to introduce the suitable quantity of blood into the tube chosen, in order to guarantee a suitable ratio blood - additive.

2.- Time passed from the sample collection to the determination: recommended doing the determination before 4

hours from the collection. The cooled sample (4°C) can be kept until 12 hours.

3.- Temperature: recommended to do the determination at ambient temperature ( 18° - 25°C ). If the sample has

been cooled, before doing the determination coming back it at ambient temperature.

4.- It is very important to do a correct mixed of the blood with the additive immediately before the filling of the pipette.

5.- If there would be some bubble in the column of the pipette, the determination is not valid.

6.- Place the filled pipettes in the vertical position (90°), in an area free from vibrations, movements and direct sunlight.

Recommendations for use:

1.- After doing the collection according to the standard procedure of each centre, doing a slight mixed of the

blood with the additive ( following the recommendations provide by the tube manufacturer ).

It is recommended to do the determination within the first 4 hours.

If the determination is going to do between 4 to 12 hours after the collection, it is recommended to keep the

sample cooled (4°C), and previously to do the determination coming back the sample at ambient temperature.

2.- At right moment that the determination will be done, mixing again with at least 12 movements putting it at

downside position ( or with an automatic mixer ), at this way we guarantee a correct mixing between the

additive and the sample.

3.- We must to remove the stopper ( keeping the suitable cautions ).

4.- Insert the pipette into the uncorked tube ( tube 13x75 ). Sliding the pipette along the tube, until this touches

the bottom. The column of blood will be made.

5.- Once the pipettes have been filled, they are placed in suitable stand ( in vertical position, in an area free

from vibrations, movements and direct sunlight ).

6.- Do the first reading after 1 hour and the second after 2 hours. The reading can be measure directly over the

graduated scale printed in the pipette ( depends on the reference ).

7.- After doing the determination, disposal the material following the general hygiene guidelines and legal

regulations for the proper disposal and infectious material ( laboratories / hospitals ).