SPECIMEN COLLECTION AND TRANSPORTATION POLICIES
The UAB Biochemical Genetics Laboratory
Director: J. Daniel Sharer, PhD, FACMG

1. PLASMA
   A. A fasting blood sample should be drawn in a green top (heparinized) tube and separated as quickly as possible.
   B. At least 0.5 cc plasma should be collected from the heparinized whole blood and kept frozen for transport to the lab.

2. CSF
   A. A minimum of 0.5 cc of CSF is required for analysis.
   B. CSF should be collected on ice and frozen for transport to the lab.

3. URINE
   A. Three (3) cc of urine are required for analysis. A pooled sample collected over 24 hrs is preferred, otherwise the first morning void can be used.
   B. The sample should be kept frozen for transport to the lab.

4. TRANSPORTATION TO THE LAB
   A. All samples should be kept frozen until transport. Samples should be shipped within 48 hours if possible. For delivery to the lab, samples should be packed in dry ice.
   B. The dry ice package should be sent by overnight shipping to:

       **UAB Biochemical Genetics Laboratory**
       **KAUL 642, 720 20th Street South**
       **Birmingham, AL  35294-0024**
       **Attn: John Moore**

   Samples should not be shipped on Friday or Saturday because they cannot be received until Monday.
   C. Samples are run Monday through Friday.
   D. Please include the patient’s clinical, dietary, and family history, along with any current medications.

   **Note: the lab cannot process samples that have not remained frozen during transport.**

5. REPORTS AND BILLING
   A. Normal results will be faxed in about 1 week. Every effort will be made to report abnormal results as quickly as possible, usually by telephone or fax.
   **B. NOTE: WE REGRET THAT WE CANNOT BILL THE PATIENT, THE REFERRING LABORATORY WILL BE CHARGED.**

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