

Sample Submission Procedure



Prior to sample collection, patients should be fasted a minimum of **4 hours**

1



Draw 2-5ml of blood

From peripheral or jugular vein

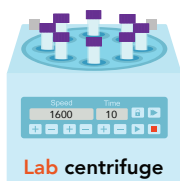
2



Fill EDTA tube

Gently invert 2-3 times

3



Centrifuge the sample

1600g for 10 minutes

within

1 hour of collection

4



Extract plasma

Transfer to non-additive tube

Avoid disrupting buffy coat



Store sample in fridge until pick-up, and ensure pick-up is within **24 hours**



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Sample Submission FAQs

Can I still use the sample if the patient has not been fasted?

Non-fasted samples, specifically those taken less than 4 hours after eating, may show elevated levels, which could misclassify a healthy dog into the moderate to high-risk zone. If elevated levels are observed and you suspect it's due to recent feeding:

1. Schedule a retest for a date 2-4 weeks from the initial test.
2. On the day of the retest, ensure the dog has fasted for at least **4 hours** before sample collection.

If levels remain elevated even after these precautions, doctors should consider interpreting the results in tandem with the patient's broader clinical history and any other relevant diagnostic findings.

What is the minimal required volume of plasma for the assay?

To run the assay, we need a minimum of **0.5 mL of plasma**.

Typically, drawing **2-5 mL of blood** produces between 0.5-1.5 mL of plasma, meeting our requirements.

Although we do prefer a larger sample for contingencies, like repeated assays, the baseline is 0.5 mL.

Can I use serum instead of plasma?

We exclusively recommend the use of plasma for the Nu.Q® Vet Cancer Test.

Serum samples are not accepted.

What if I let the tube sit for more than 60 minutes before spinning?

Delaying centrifugation can result in artificially increased nucleosome levels in the sample.

If over 60 minutes have passed since the blood draw, **it's best to collect a fresh sample**.

Ensure you spin it down at 1600g for 10 minutes within that 60-minute window.

What if my sample is hemolyzed after centrifugation?

Mild to moderate hemolysis won't interfere with the test's accuracy.

In human assays, hemoglobin levels up to 500 mg/dL showed no interference.

However, for samples exhibiting 3+ or higher hemolysis, it's advisable to collect and process a new sample.

What kind of tubes can I send the plasma sample in?

Please ensure the plasma is sent in a **sterile non-additive tube**.

Suitable tubes include red top tubes, white top tubes in some clinics, cryovials, or top test tubes.



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