

Pathology and Laboratory Medicine

Instructions for Collection of Cerebrospinal Fluid (CSF) for Alzheimer's Disease Biomarker Testing

<u>Collection Tube</u>: CSF <u>must</u> be collected in a Sarstedt FB CSF Collection tube 63.614.625 (blue cap) tube.

These tubes can be ordered from In-Common Laboratories, using the Client Supply Request form.



<u>Time of Day</u>: It is recommended that the Lumbar Puncture (LP) be performed in the morning because the concentration of Alzheimer's disease biomarkers in CSF can fluctuate throughout the day, but CSF collected at any time of day will be accepted for testing.

 β -amyloid peptides will adhere to plastics such as polystyrene. Failure to follow the recommended collection protocol may result in a falsely low A β 42 result and contribute to an incorrect diagnosis of Alzheimer's disease.

CSF Collection Protocol:

- 1) A syringe or extension tubing should **not** be used to collect CSF. Instead, CSF should drip directly from the hub of the needle into the Sarstedt collection tube.
- 2) The first 2 mL of CSF should not be used for Alzheimer's disease biomarker testing. The first 2 mL can drip into a polystyrene tube (your standard CSF collection tube) and either be discarded or used for tests other than Alzheimer's disease biomarkers.
- 3) If the CSF still contains significant blood after the first 2 mL are collected, continue to collect CSF in an alternate tube (not the blue cap tube) until the CSF clears.
- 4) Collect CSF directly into the Sarstedt 63.614.625 (blue cap) tube to the 2.5 mL fill-line (tube must be filled to at least 1.5 mL).

Specimen Handling:

- 1) There can be <u>no</u> transferring of CSF between tubes. **CSF for Alzheimer's disease biomarker testing** must have been collected directly into the Sarstedt 63.614.625 (blue cap) tube and there can be <u>no</u> pipetting of CSF out of this tube.
- 2) Do **not** centrifuge the blue cap tube.
- 3) Place the tube directly in a -20°C freezer. If possible, keep the tube upright from time of collection until freezing.
- 4) Use dry ice to ship to In-Common Laboratories to ensure that the specimens remain frozen.

Specimen Stability: 12 hours ambient; 14 days at 4 - 8°C; 60 days at -20°C

Specimen Handling Questions May be Directed to:

Client Care at In-Common Laboratories (416) 422-3000 Ext. 300 Info@iclabs.ca