

Plasma Isolation from Human Peripheral Blood

Note: This protocol assumes the investigator is beginning this with full Yellow-Top (type A) BD Vacutainer tubes of human blood (roughly 8 ml). Plasma is *not* the same as serum.

- 1) In a centrifuge capable of safely spinning blood tubes, spin the blood at roughly 900xg for 15 minutes at room temperature. (In IEC HN-SII centrifuge: set speed to $\frac{3}{4}$)
- 2) Remove the tubes from the centrifuge, and in a clean and safe environment, open the tubes to access the plasma located at the top of the specimen. *Note: if you intend to immortalize lymphoblastoid cultures or perform sterile work on the remaining cells, this step must be performed in a biosafety cabinet.*
- 3) Using a sterile transfer pipet or a 1000 μ l pipettor, carefully transfer 1 ml of the plasma into appropriately labeled amber screw-cap microcentrifuge tubes. If 1 ml is not possible, transfer as much as reasonably possible without disturbing or collecting any of the pelleted cells.
- 4) As soon as possible, place and store the collected plasma at -80° C.
- 5) Use the remaining material for one or more of the desired processes (ie DNA, RNA, LCL).