

# Cryoglobulin Testing – Information for Requestors

The purpose of this test is to identify the presence of cryoproteins, these are proteins which precipitate or form a gel at temperatures below body temperature (37°C) and re-dissolve upon warming.

Patients with known cryoglobulinaemia where paraprotein monitoring (i.e. serum electrophoresis and immunoglobulin analysis) is required should also have samples taken according to this procedure.

The laboratory MUST be contacted (x4712) to arrange collection of pre-warmed blood tubes in a warm sand flask from the Pathology Laboratory (level 1, B38), Mon-Fri 9am-12noon (analysis cannot take place outside these times).

## Sample requirements

SAMPLES MUST be drawn (using vacuette or butterfly but not syringe) into pre-labelled, pre-warmed blood tubes, kept in warm sand and transported immediately to the Pathology Laboratory (level 1, B38).

### For new ?Cryoglobulin requests:

Request Cryoglobulin, Serum Electrophoresis, Immunoglobulins, Rheumatoid Factor, serum Free Light Chains and Complement analysis.

Draw:

**2 x completely full 5 mL Yellow top SST blood tubes**, label with patient identification/test request. Place back into warm sand immediately.

AND

**2 x completely full 4 mL EDTA samples** (purple topped), label with patient identification/test request. Place back into warm sand immediately.

AND

**1 x 4mL Yellow top SST blood tube**. Do **NOT** place into sand, keep at room temperature, label with patient identification/test request.

### For patients with known Cryoglobulinaemia:

Request Serum Electrophoresis analysis.

Draw:

**1 x 5 mL Yellow top SST blood tube**, label with patient identification/test request.

**Any other tests must be requested on a separate request number and collected into separate tubes.**

*For clinical information please contact the Duty Biochemist (x4050) Mon-Fri 9am-5pm*