

Mistakes Cost



If the sample is contaminated by heparin and/or saline when drawn from a port or central venous line, 5-7 cc of the blood should be discarded and the coagulation lab alerted that the sample was collected from a line.

Under filled specimen tubes can result in too much citrate and negatively affect test results.

Over filled tubes can result in not enough citrate and cause the sample to clot, making it unusable.



Freezing the specimen without separating the serum will cause the specimen to be altered and laboratory testing cannot be completed.

Freezing and thawing the specimen may cause the protein in the specimen to be denatured and have decreased activity.



If transport time to the lab is too long or the sample is exposed to extreme temperatures, the sample can be compromised and will have to be collected again.

