

PROCESSING INSTRUCTIONS FOR GALACTOSE -1- PHOSPHATE (Gal-1-P)

Sample requirements: 1-2 mL blood collected in heparin.

Please process **immediately** as follows.

1. Centrifuge blood in a cold centrifuge immediately upon drawing sample. If cold centrifuge is not available, immediate processing of the sample is most important.
2. Remove plasma **AND** buffy coat. The plasma can be discarded or used for other testing if requested.
3. Wash red cells with 0.9% saline: Add a volume of 0.9% saline equivalent to the volume of plasma removed. Gently invert to mix cells and saline.
4. Spin in a cold centrifuge and remove saline.
5. Repeat washing procedure 2 more times (total 3 times). **Be sure to remove as much saline as possible after the last wash.**
6. Freeze washed red cells immediately at -70 C and transport in dry ice for long-term transport. For Children's Regional Lab sites, -20 C is acceptable. The washed red cells should be sent completely frozen and must not thaw during transport.