

CSF COLLECTION PROTOCOL

REQUIREMENTS

- The CSF must be collected in our sample collection tubes for the measurement of Monoamine Neurotransmitter Metabolites and Tetrahydrobiopterin and Neopterin Profile metabolite assays (these specimens may be used for 5-MTHF, Amino Acids, Lactate, and GABA as well, if requested).
- Call Institute of Metabolic Disease (214-820-4533) to obtain appropriate sample collection tubes.
- Each sample collection set consists of 5 microcentrifuge tubes in a cardboard holder. Tube #3 contains antioxidants necessary to protect the sample integrity. One set of tubes is required per patient.
- Please contact us at 214-820-4533 if you have any additional questions.
- If the sample has been already been collected without using our Special Collection Kit, please contact us at 214-820-4533 to discuss testing options.

COLLECTION INSTRUCTIONS

1. The CSF must be collected from the first drop into the designated tubes in the order indicate in the following table. **DO NOT COLLECT THE CSF IN ONE LARGE TUBE AND ALIQUOT INTO THE TUBE SET.**
2. Fill each tube to the marked line with the following volumes, indicate in the following table.

Tube Number	Required volume	The total CSF volume required is at least 3.5 mL
1	0.5 mL	
2	0.5 mL	
3	1.0 mL	
4	1.0 mL	
5	0.5 mL	

FAILURE TO FOLLOW THE COLLECTION INSTRUCTIONS MAY RESULT IN SAMPLE REJECTION.

3. If the samples are not blood contaminated, place the tubes on ice (or dry ice if available) at the bedside. Transfer the samples to a -80°C freezer ASAP. If the samples are blood contaminated, the tubes should immediately be centrifuged (prior to freezing) and the clear CSF transferred to new similarly labeled tubes then frozen and stored at -80°C ASAP. **BLOOD CONTAMINATED SAMPLES WILL BE REJECTED!**
4. Store all samples at -80°C until transport.