

UC Davis Clinical Endocrinology Laboratory

Sample Handling Requirements

For all samples:

Do not use serum separator tubes. Draw in a tube with no additive or a red top. If you do use a serum separator tube, transfer the serum to a new tube as soon as possible.

Do not send whole or clotted blood. Please send serum only. Blood contains active enzymes which may affect the results of endocrine tests.

Do not ship the sample to arrive on a holiday or weekend, or during Christmas break. Please check our site for university holidays and closures.

We offer a reduced rate FedEx and UPS option for overnight shipping.

Do not ship the sample via the US Postal Service, as the delivery will be delayed in the campus mailroom for up to a week, causing sample degradation.

For AMH and Inhibin testing:

Please separate the serum and ship priority overnight on an ice pack, to arrive by approximately 10:30 a.m.

Store the serum in the freezer if shipping will be delayed, but you may ship it on an ice pack. Dry ice is not required.

For steroid hormone (testosterone, DHP, progesterone, estrone sulfate) testing:

These hormones are more stable. However, they may be degraded by poor handling conditions, shipment in serum separator tubes, or as whole or clotted blood.

Shipment by US Postal Service is not recommended for a fast turnaround, as the sample will be delayed up to one week. You may ship this type of sample 2-day or ground via Fed Ex or UPS.

We are not responsible for results affected by improper sample handling prior to receipt in our lab