

UC Davis Clinical Endocrinology Laboratory

Sample Handling Requirements

For all samples:

Do not use serum separator tubes. Draw in a tube with no additive (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 Fed Ex option for overnight shipping.

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.

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.

Do not ship the samples to arrive on a holiday or a weekend, as UPS and Fed Ex will not deliver it to us, and it will sit at the shipping facility, causing sample degradation. Please check our site for university holidays.

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

These hormones are more stable, however, they may be degraded by poor handling conditions, or 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. See above. Alternatively, you may ship this type of sample 2- day or ground via Fed Ex or UPS. We offer a reduced rate Fed Ex option for overnight shipping.

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