

Supplementary Information – Protocol for blood collection and processing in SPARE and STORI trials

5.4.1. SR-SOP for serum collection, processing and storage.

Warning!! It is recommended to perform all the following steps (from blood serum samples intake to storage of aliquots in the freezer) within 4 hours after withdrawn.

Please annotate the eCRF accordingly

1. Blood intake will be done by the nurse using 22 or 21G butterfly needle.
2. Two serum tubes with clot activator (10 mL) will be taken and homogenised by inversion 5X in 5 sec.
3. The hour of collection will be noted on the tubes and included on the check-list provided with the kit and afterwards in the eCRF Labo sample tab.
4. Serum will be extracted from serum separator tubes after clotting at room temperature for 30 minutes (range 30-120mins).
5. Centrifugation must be performed at room temperature, for 10 minutes, at a speed of 3000g.
6. The upper serum phase will be aliquoted in 2mL skirted sterile polypropylene screw-cap tubes.
7. Freezing time will be noted on the check-list provided with the kit and afterwards in the eCRF in the Labo sample tab.
8. These aliquots will be stored at -80°C until conditioning for shipment to the central biobank of the CHU-Liège. If storage at -80°C is not possible these aliquots will be stored at -20°C until shipment. However this should be recorded in the eCRF Labo sample tab.