

Bleeding Procedures

Pool bleeds for normal serum

1. Use mice from stock room
2. Bleed mice into same tube(s) (10 x 75 mm), mark cages with "bleed" date.
3. Put tubes into 37° incubator for 15 mins (or more) to clot.
4. Spin down in Sero-fuge for 10-20 mins.
5. Draw off all serum, right into clot. Dispose of original tube with clot in it.
6. Spin down, second tube for 5-10 mins.
7. Draw off serum and place in tube with type of serum, bleed date and your initials on a label on the tube.
8. Store in appropriate freezer.

Plasma Pool Bleed

1. Bleed mice thru heparinized collecting tubes (place red tip against wall of tube and draw blood thru the clear tip) into 10 x 75 tubes.
2. Keep plasma on ice when letting it stand for any period of time.
3. Spin in sero-fuge for 10 min.
4. Draw off plasma and place in second tube (if red cells are carried over, respin and place in third tube)

Individual Bleeds

1. Bleed each mouse into separate tube, the mouse's number, distinguished by ear punch should correspond to number on Beckman tube.
2. Bleeds can be incubated for 30 min then stored in refrigerator for maximum clotting and shrinkage of clot.
3. Spin in microfuge for 5 mins. (balance tubes)
4. Draw off serum with pipette and place in glass tube(numbered according to the bleed numbering system in use). for maximum amount of serum, go along the clot and draw up all sera in original tube. There will be some red cells, but place in second Beckman tube and spin again.
5. Serum should be refrigerated or frozen unless testing is planned immediately (bacteria growth is noted if refrigerated for a period of over 2 days).