ESR WORKSHEET 2010

The samples have been tested and found to be homogeneous and stable for the purpose of these exercises.

Samples are composed of stabilised human red blood cells in a preservative medium. See Page 2 for sample handling and processing instructions.

JUNE	Cycle 10 Run 1	ESR10-06a	ESR
		ESR10-06b	ESR
DECEMBER	Cycle 10 Run 2	ESR10-12a	ESR
		ESR10-12b	ESR

GENERAL INFORMATION

SAMPLE	Volume Provided	Test	Interpretation	Units
ESR10 -**a / b	5.0ml	ESR	Normal / Raised	mm/hr

These samples are compatible with all manual and automated methods registered in this program *except* the Alifax Test1 and Sedimat 15 instruments. Any relevant details pertaining to the samples (e.g. age and sex of patient) will be provided on the packing slip accompanying your survey package.

Certain processing instructions are instrument specific. Please read carefully before proceeding.

SAMPLE HANDLING AND PROCESSING INSTRUCTIONS

These instructions are taken directly from the manufacturer's instructions for use.

MANUAL PROCEDURE

For manual testing, these samples should be handled in the same manner as a patient sample.
CAUTION: DO NOT remove sodium citrate or sodium chloride from tubes before using this control.

AUTOMATED PROCEDURE

Follow the instrument manufacturer's instructions for ESR testing for automated methods.

Diesse /Elan Diagnostics Ves-Matic and Mini-Ves instruments: Use the "Westergren 1hr" setting.

ESR-9 / Sedimatic 8: Use the "30 minute measuring" setting.

HANDLING INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Remove vials from refrigerator and allow them to equilibrate to room temperature (20-30 minutes).

2. Mix vials by inversion by vigorously rolling upright between palms until red cells are completely suspended. Continue to mix for 90 seconds. The samples may also be rotated on a rotator prior to use.

3. Draw the sample immediately after thorough mixing is completed.
   If mixed vials sit for more than 1 minute, the vial must be remixed by repeating step 2.
   Incomplete mixing can invalidate both the sample drawn and the remaining product in the vial.

4. Follow the manufacturer's directions for filling the sedimentation rate tube for both automated and manual systems.

5. Wipe threads of vial and cap with clean tissue before closing. Recap the vial tightly.

6. Store opened vials at room temperature (18-30ºC) or 2-10ºC. The open-vial stability of the controls at these temperatures is 95 days.