

## Pre-Centrifugation and Transport Temperature

### **Factors and Their Possible Consequences:**

With elevated temperatures, RBC rupture may occur.

With frozen samples, RBC rupture will occur.

With frozen whole blood samples, cells, particularly RBC, will rupture.

### Corrective Actions

- Keep specimens at 20-25°C, unless otherwise specified.
- Specimens should not be frozen unless otherwise specified. If necessary, use a separate aliquot.
- Use appropriate transportation container.
- If specimen is required to be transported 'on ice', ensure that an ice slurry (mixture of ice and water) is used to maintain the sample at a consistent temperature (2-8°C).
- Control temperature and where possible vertical orientation of the tube during transport.

### Reference:

1. CLSI. *Collection of Diagnostic Venous Blood Specimens*. 7<sup>th</sup> ed. CLSI Standard GP41. Wayne, PA: Clinical and Laboratory Standards Institute; 2017.