

## Transport Duration

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

Serum or plasma in contact with RBC over a prolonged period of time may result in hemolysis.

### Corrective Actions

- Separate serum or plasma from cells within 2 hours of collection, unless otherwise specified.
- Use gel-based separator tubes to provide a barrier between the serum or plasma and cells, when possible.
- Control transport requirements to ensure blood and blood products are delivered in a timely and safe manner.

### References:

1. CLSI. *Collection of Diagnostic Venous Blood Specimens*. 7<sup>th</sup> ed. CLSI Standard GP41. Wayne, PA: Clinical and Laboratory Standards Institute; 2017.
2. Woodworth A, Pyle-Eilola A. Sample processing and specimen misidentification issues: Major sources of preanalytical errors. In: *Accurate Results in the Clinical laboratory*. Dasgupta A, Sepulveda J, eds. Cambridge, MA: Elsevier, 2019.