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| **Analysis :** | Assessment of plasmalogen levels in erythrocytes |
| **Institution :** | UZ Gent |
| **Supervisor :** | Dr. Hedwig Stepman  [hedwig.stepman@uzgent.be](mailto:hedwig.stepman@uzgent.be) |
| **Method :** | GC-MS |
| **Minimum amount of sample (1) and instructions for the collection (2), storage (3) and transport of the sample (4) :** | |
| **For fresh blood samples that can be delivered within 24h :**   * 1 : Minimum 5 mL of fresh blood * 2 : Please notify the laboratory of the UZ Gent of the shipment of the samples by phone or   email : +32 (0)9 332 24 49 ; [labometabole@uzgent.be](mailto:labometabole@uzgent.be)   * 3 : At room temperature * 4 : At room temperature, **as quickly as possible to the laboratory (within 24h after**   **collection)**.  **If it is not possible to send fresh blood within 24h, please send frozen packed erythrocytes. To this aim, please follow the procedure below :**   * 1 : Min. volume of packed erythrocytes : 250 µL * 2 : ! Please notify the laboratory of the UZ Gent of the collection and shipment of the sample   (+32 (0)9 332 24 49 or [labometabole@uzgent.be](mailto:labometabole@uzgent.be)).  Erythrocytes pellets are collected as follows:  a) EDTA whole blood (5 mL) is centrifuged (3000 rpm).  b) Then, the plasma and buffy coat are removed.  c) The red blood cells are washed twice with physiological saline.  d) Finally, physiological saline is removed and freeze packed erythrocytes are stored at  -80°C (max. 1 year).   * 3 : Frozen (-80°C) * 4 : Frozen (-80°C) | |
| **Denied requests :** | |
| * Incomplete or missing request form. * Samples delivered after poor transport / storage conditions (broken or open tubes, degraded sample, etc.). * Duplicate samples (multiple samples collected the same day for the same patient). * The request for the analysis doesn’t correspond to the analysis(es) performed by the reference center. | |
| **Turnaround time (necessary time to perform the analysis and to send the validated results to the prescriber) :** | |
| * Average turnaround time : 30 days | |