

## Division of Laboratory Medicine

Immunology

# Cryoglobulins

## General information

**Specimen transport:** Samples in Thermos at 37°C. Contact the laboratory to arrange collection of the Thermos flask.

**Repeat frequency:** At significant change of clinical symptoms.

**Special precautions:** The samples must be taken into a pre-warmed syringes and then pre-warmed tubes. They must be transported at 37°C in a Thermos flask. Always contact the laboratory before bleeding the patient. There is a **3pm cut off** for the acceptance of cryoglobulin samples.

## Laboratory information

**Normal reference range:** Not normally detected

**Volume and sample type:** 4ml serum maintained at 37°C and 4ml EDTA (plasma) blood maintained at 37°C.

**Method:** Immunofixation

**Participation in EQA scheme:** Pilot UK NEQAS for Cryoproteins

**Turnaround time (calendar days from sample receipt to authorised result):** Median - 7

## Clinical information

### Indications for the test:

- Lymphoproliferative disease (Monoclonal)
- Connective tissue disease: SLE, Sjogren's, Raynaud's and cutaneous vasculitis.
- There is almost always a low C4 in cryoglobulinaemia

**Factors affecting the test:** Any minor variations in temperature (1°C)

**(Last updated July 2023)**