Greiner Bio-One Customer Information

VACUETTE® Plasma Tubes

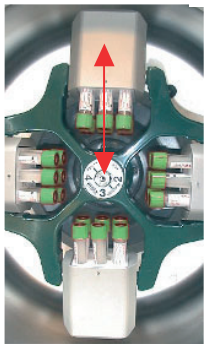
Centrifugation

For best results, VACUETTE® Plasma Gel Tubes containing heparinised blood should be spun at **2.200g for 15 minutes.** (VACUETTE® Plasma Tubes should be spun at 2.000 - 3.000g for 15 minutes). Relative centrifugal force (G) may be calculated by the following formula:

$$g = 1.12 \times 10^{-5} \times r \times (rpm)^2$$

(r is expressed in cm)

(A)

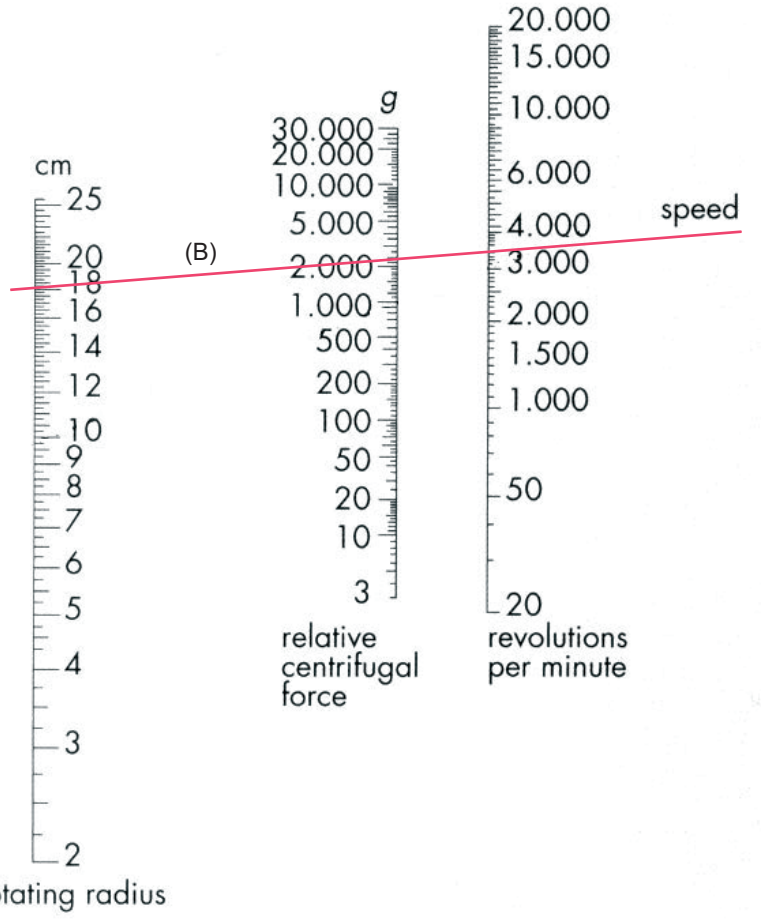


For a simple way to determine the relative centrifugal force of your centrifuge use the nomograph below:

(A) Measure the radius of the rotating axis to the end of the VACUETTE® Plasma Tube when the tube is in horizontal position.

(B) Draw a line connecting the radius scale (18cm) to the g-force scale (2.200g). Continue drawing this line until it meets the scale showing revolutions per minute.

(C) The point at which the line intersects the revolutions per minute scale is the correct rpm. (3.500rpm)



It is recommended that plasma be physically separated from contact with cells as soon as possible with a **maximum time limit of two hours** from the time of collection, unless conclusive evidence indicates that longer contact times do not contribute to inaccuracy of the results. Shorter contact times may be necessary.

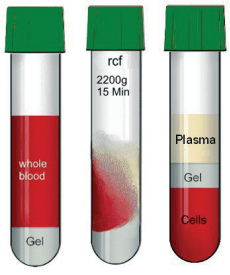
It is recommended to use a 90° swing-out rotor centrifuge, so that the sediment surface is formed at right angles to the tube wall.

Ensure correct placement of the tube in the centrifuge. Incorrect placement can result in separation of the safety cap from the tube.

Centrifugation should be perfomed in a temperature controlled centrifuge in the range of 15-24°C.

Do not re-centrifuge Plasma Gel Tubes. The re-centrifugation can lead to impairment of the gel barrier, causing gel particles to separate and appear in the plasma.

Before sending the tubes by mail or through a pneumatic post system, the gel tubes should sit upright for one hour after centrifugation in room temperature, to minimize the risk of impairing the gel barrier through shock movements (shaking).



(1) (2) (3)

VACUETTE® Plasma Gel Tubes contain a thixotropic barrier gel that moves to the interface based on a density gradient and forms a impermeable barrier between the plasma and cells.

(1) Tube before centrifugation
(2) Tube during centrifugation
(3) Tube after centrifugation

If plasma is to be stored, the gel should be visually inspected for barrier integrity. The tube is to be kept in a vertical, closure-up position.

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Wear gloves during venipuncture and when handling blood collection tubes to minimize exposure hazard.