

# Serum Separator Tubes

**Serum separator** tubes should **not** be used to transport specimens, except when specifically requested.



**Red/Gray Top Vial  
(serum separator)**

*Specialty* strongly recommends that you NOT ship patient samples using serum separator tubes (SST) except when testing for ionized calcium.\*

Do not ship SST tubes frozen under any circumstance as specimen integrity may be compromised. If frozen serum is needed, please centrifuge and then aliquot each serum sample into two (2) plastic transport tubes and freeze immediately. Ship the frozen aliquot sample tubes on dry ice in a *Specialty* shipping container.

If you have any questions, please contact Client Services at 800-421-4449.

\*Do not aliquot ionized calcium samples from SST tubes as contact with air will alter CO<sub>2</sub> concentration, pH, and hence ionized calcium concentration. Keep ionized calcium samples sealed and airtight in an SST and ship promptly ambient or refrigerated only.