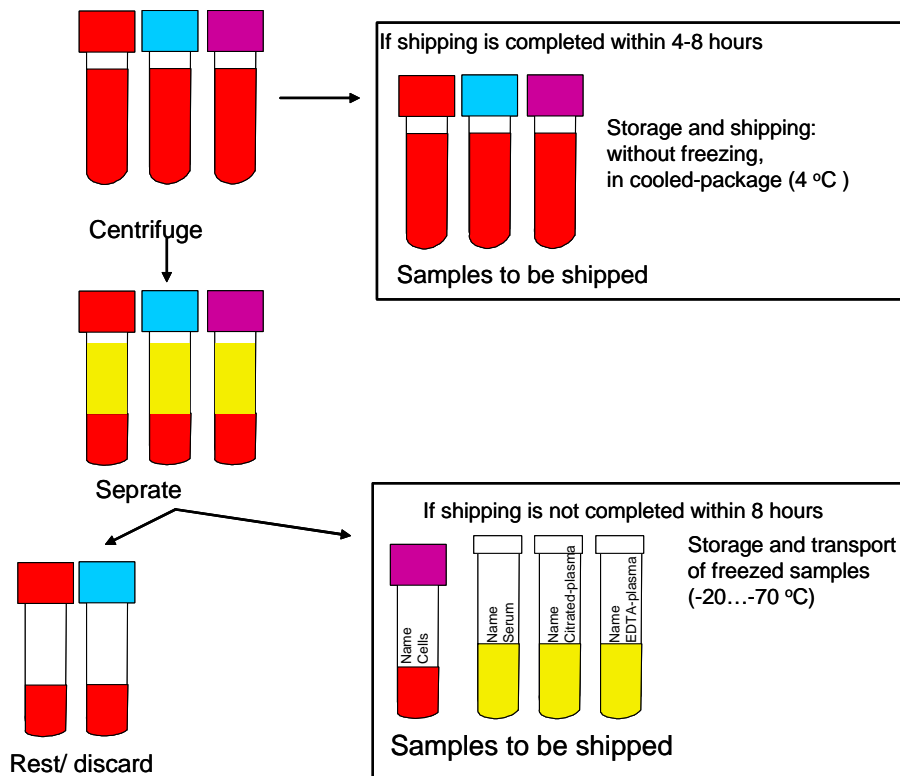


## ***Requirements of sampling and sample shipping in case of complement analysis***

Several measurements may be necessary to complete the differential diagnostic work-up in case of suspicion of HUS/TTP/complement deficiency including C1-inhibitor deficiency/systemic autoimmune diseases. Different types of biological materials, including serum, citrated-plasma, EDTA-plasma and cells for DNA extraction may be necessary, therefore we suggest to send all of these samples to the laboratory when diagnostic tests are ordered.

The following tubes have to be taken: red ('native'), blue ('coagulation', i.e. Na-citrate-anticoagulated blood) and violet ('complete blood counts', i.e. EDTA-anticoagulated blood). Please handle the samples before and during shipping in the following way:



Please indicate in a clear way the name (identification) of patient, date of sampling and type of material in the tube.

It is important to indicate the timing of sample in relation of plasma therapy (when: before, during or after).

In case of infants and under any other restricting circumstances (stored samples, etc.) the lowest amount of serum/plasma samples is 200 microliter. Samples taken for other purposes ('routine labtests') are also appropriate, if the samples stand no more than 4 hours in room temperatures. These samples must be sent frozen thereafter.

If test are ordered for patient having established diagnosis (follow-up tests) it is enough to send the required type of material only (serum for autoantibody measurement, etc.)

The quality of samples is a major determinant of any complement measurements, thus, a determinant of the diagnosis of your patients! We thank you for your cooperation in this important matter!