



Haematology - ESR sample requirements

The specialised collection tube for ESR's is no longer required.

Requests for ESR investigation should now be collected in to a 4 ml EDTA*.

If EDTA sample has been taken for CBC & / or HbA1c an additional sample is not required i.e. only one 4 ml EDTA tube required for CBC &/or ESR &/or HbA1c.

* In house stability studies have shown that EDTA sample can be used for ESR testing for up to 48 hrs – with refrigeration.

Good Laboratory / Best Practice – Inflammatory markers:

Pathlab supports Best Practice guidelines and in conjunction with clinicians has previously developed and implemented Good Practice for the use of the ESR.

Please see the following links for previously circulated information:

- ESR – Inflammatory response marker? – NO <https://goo.gl/2G5yd6>
- Triage of ESR Requests <https://goo.gl/FaJ4QP>

We welcome any feedback related to this best practice and will circulate more information at a later date.

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1. [Laboratory Schedule and test guidelines](#)
2. BPAC [The New Zealand Laboratory schedule and test guidelines: Haematology tests](#)