

Step 3:

Returning The Sample To The Laboratory

Samples must be returned to Genova Diagnostics by overnight delivery to arrive next day.

For UK mainland patients only: Genova Diagnostics recommends using the enclosed courier collection service, or alternative e.g.: Royal Mail, Special Delivery. The mailing envelope is not pre-paid.

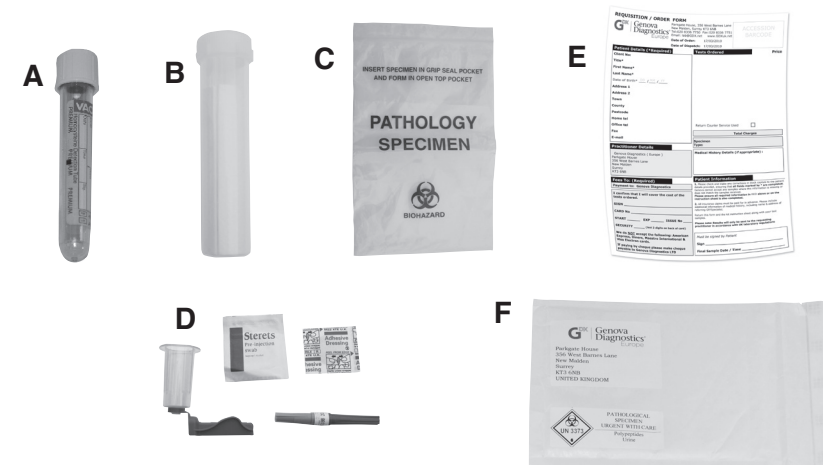
For patients outside of the UK: please arrange an international courier such as FedEx, DHL, UPS.

Please note: the laboratory is closed at weekends. Samples should not be in transit over the weekend; please arrange for the samples to be sent overnight and to arrive no later than Friday.

- Plan to return the sample **Monday – Thursday by overnight delivery only.**
- Place the plastic tube holder (containing the filled tube) in the Biohazard bag and seal it securely.
- Place the Biohazard bag in the mailing envelope with your completed, signed and dated requisition form.
- Seal the envelope.
- Once posting/couriering of samples has been arranged, keep any tracking numbers issued by the courier / Royal Mail for future reference.

Blood Test - Homocysteine

Instructions for Blood Collection



Check Your Kit

- A - 1 Homocysteine-specific tube (white top)
- B - 1 Tube holder with absorbent paper
- C - 1 Biohazard bag
- D - 1 Bleed kit (needle, holder, wipe, spot plaster)
- E - 1 Requisition (to be completed and signed)
- F - 1 Mailing envelope

- If any of the items are missing or expired, call the laboratory on 020 8336 7750.
- The appearance of the above kit components are for illustration use only and actual contents may vary slightly from that shown.

Step 1:

FOR THE PATIENT

Important things to know and consider

- Certain medications and supplements may influence the plasma levels of homocysteine measured in this test. Results may help demonstrate efficacy of medications or supplements, or the practitioner may elect to have the patient temporarily discontinue non-essential ones. **Please check with your practitioner before changing the use of any medications.**
- Specimens from patients who are on drug therapy involving S-adenosyl-methionine may show falsely elevated levels of homocysteine. Results on specimens obtained from patients taking methotrexate, carbamazepine, phenytoin, nitrous oxide, anti-convulsants, or 6-azauridine triacetates should be interpreted with caution as these substances interfere with homocysteine determination.

Schedule & Prepare for the blood draw

- Arrange to have the blood drawn on **Monday – Thursday**, for returning to the laboratory using next day delivery, to arrive by Friday.
- **Please note:** samples must be received within 24 hours of collection. The laboratory is closed at weekends and samples should not be in transit over the weekend. Please arrange for samples to be sent overnight and to arrive no later than Friday.
- **Please note:** equipment provided is for the use of a qualified phlebotomist / doctor / nurse only.
- **Complete the requisition form** with all patient and payment information. Be sure it is signed by the patient/ responsible party in the box labelled “Final Sample Date / Time.”
- **Avoid** alcohol 24 hours prior to blood draw as it may impact the measured results.

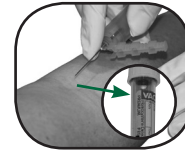
Step 2:

Blood Draw: Instructions for Clinician use only

Not following these instructions may affect the test results.



- 1** Write the patient's full name (first AND last), date of birth, and the time and date of collection on the homocysteine collection tube.



- 2** Draw blood to fill the tube to the **black 2ml mark**. **NB: the tube will not fill past this mark.**



- 3** Mix blood sample thoroughly by gently inverting the tube three times. **Do not shake.**



- 4** Place the tube into the plastic blood tube holder with absorbent paper and seal. If unable to ship immediately, store in a refrigerator to keep specimen stable. **DO NOT FREEZE.**



- 5** Ensure the patient completes, signs and dates the requisition form: **the test can not be processed without this information.**