

Instructions for Cysticercosis/ Taeniasis Biological Specimen Collection and Shipment

Finger prick blood specimens will be collected using the following protocol:

1. Use the clean and sterile equipment and wash target finger with alcohol swab
2. Prick the finger using the finger-prick needle
3. Collect the whole blood using Nobuto filter paper until the blood completely fills the filter collection strip.
4. Directly put the filter paper into the StabilZyme-filled microcentrifuge tube.
5. Store the sample tubes in a refrigerator or in a cool place. These collected samples can be stable at room temperature for at most 7 days if there is no refrigeration is available. **Do NOT freeze the tubes!**
6. Complete the CDC's patient history form for T. solium specimen submission
7. Submit the samples and form to Los Angeles County Public Health Laboratory for testing (Serology Unit) using the normal laboratory courier system. Specimens will be sent to CDC for testing. Laboratory results will be sent to the submitting health center upon receipt of the report from CDC. These reports will not be entered in the laboratory information system (Sunquest).