



ALABAMA
DEPARTMENT OF FORENSIC SCIENCES
TOXICOLOGY SPECIMEN COLLECTION – POSTMORTEM

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The following are recommendations for collecting and submitting specimens for Toxicological Analyses. This kit is intended for the collection of blood and urine specimens from **a single deceased subject**. Do not remove the preservative powder from the bottles. Filling each specimen container to maximum volume permits the laboratory to conduct a greater number of analyses if necessary. Each container has a maximum capacity of 35 mL.

SPECIMEN COLLECTION

1. Collect the specimen using the syringe and needle provided.
2. Transfer the specimen into the respective container provided. Two bottles are provided; one each is intended for blood and urine. Replace the cap and tighten to prevent leakage.
3. Rinse the syringe and needle with water between collections to prevent cross-contamination of specimens. Expel remaining water to prevent dilution of specimens.
4. Disperse the preservative powder by inverting the container multiple times.
5. Complete the label on the container.
6. Complete the **Specimen Security Seal(s)** provided.
7. Seal each container separately. Affix the center of the seal to the top of the bottle cap then press the ends of the seal down along both sides of the bottle.

PACKAGING

8. Complete the **Toxicological Analysis Request** form provided in the pouch on the outside of the kit. Reports will be returned to the investigating officer(s) whose name(s) appear(s) on the form. Re-insert the completed form into the pouch then close the pouch with the self-sticking seal.
9. Place the sealed specimen containers in the kit holder provided and insert the holder into the plastic bag provided. Squeeze out excess air then close the bag to contain possible leakage. Place the closed bag in the kit. The absorbent pad should remain inside the bag with the specimens.
10. Close the kit box lid and affix the **Kit Shipping Seal** provided to the kit box where indicated. Initial and date the seal.
11. Complete the return address section on the kit box.
12. Return the sealed kit with the completed **Toxicological Analysis Request** form provided to the Alabama Department of Forensic Sciences. Kits are designed for shipment via common carrier.