

Test details (Please feel free to comment or expand answers)								
1. Does your laboratory provide a service for the analysis of blood samples for cryoglobulins? If yes which department. If more than one department involved please select which ones	Yes	No	Biochemistry	Haematology	Immunology	Other department?		
2. How many samples does your laboratory analyse per year								
3. Which disciplines refers most samples for cryoglobulins	Rheumatology	Infectious disease	Hepatology	Neurology	Haematology	Renal	Critical care	Other (please state)

4. Do you provide instructions for users to refer to when taking these samples?	Yes	No						
5. Do you suggest measurement of C3, C4 and rheumatoid factor as part of cryoglobulin work up?	Yes	No						
6. Are the immunology tests easily accessible, i.e. are they easy to add on to a sample? If no please provide further information	Yes	No						
7. Are the immunology tests run at 37oC?	Yes	No						
Preanalytics (Please feel free to								

comment or expand answers)								
8. What sample types do you request? i.e. serum, plasma (ETDA, citrate)	EDTA	Li hep	Plain Serum	SST serum	Citrate			
9. Are the sample tubes preheated prior to sampling?	Yes	No						
10. At what temperature are the samples transported?	37oC	Room temperature	other					
11. What type of container are samples transported to the laboratory?	Flask with water at 37oC	Flask with sand at 37oC	No container	Other (please provide details)				
12. What time interval is recommended between sampling and centrifugation ?	1 hr	No recommendation	Other:					

13. Do you use a heated centrifuge?	Yes	No						
14. At what temperature are the samples centrifuged?	Room temperature	37oC	Other:					
Analysis (Please feel free to comment or expand answers)								
15. Do you divide the samples to be held at various temperatures ? If yes what temperatures	Yes	No	4oC	room temperature	37oC			
16. What type of tubes do you aliquot the serum and plasma into?	Please provide tube type:							
17. After samples have been divided how many days do you	<3 days	3-7 days	>7 days	Other:				

hold samples at various temperatures ?								
18. How often do you check the samples for precipitate and how is this recorded.	daily	after 3 days	after 7 days	Other:				
19. Do you keep a photo record?	Yes	No						
20. Do you confirm positive results by re-warming to 37°C	Yes	No						
21. Do you run electrophoresis on the 37oC serum sample? If yes select all that apply	Yes	No	CZE	Fix	Gel SPE			
22. Do you measure total protein, albumin and Immunoglobulins on the 37oC serum	Yes	No	Total protein	Albumin	Immunoglobulins			

sample? If yes select all that apply								
23. If a precipitate is seen do you characterise and type the samples or is this referred to an external laboratory?	Yes	No	Referred					
24. If you characterise and type the samples in-house do you remove supernatant and wash the precipitate?	Yes	No						
25. How many times is the precipitate washed?	1	2	3	Other:				
26. Do you Immunofix both the serum and plasma? If other provide details	Yes	No	Other:					

27. Do you immunofix both the supernatant and precipitate? If other provide details	Yes	No	Other:					
28. Do you quantify the precipitate if isolated. If yes how do you do this?	Yes:	No						
29. What do you report if precipitate is identified as fibrinogen? Please provide details								
30. Do you type for fibrinogen? If yes how is this done?	Yes:	No						
Post-Analysis								
31. Which department is responsible for the reporting of	Biochemistry	Haematology	Immunology					

Cryoglobulin results? Please state if it is a combination of different departments								
32. Which members of staff report Cryoglobulin results?	Biomedical Scientists	Clinical Scientists	Consultants					
33. How do you report negative results? Please provide details	Standard comment:	Other:						
34. How do you report positive results?	Standard comment:	Other:						
35. Do you include C3, C4 and RF in the results interpretation ?	Yes	No						
36. Do you suggest Cryoglobulin type?	Yes	No						
37. Are you registered	Yes	No						

with an EQA scheme?								
38. Do you have any other comments to add?								