



NORTHERN MICHIGAN

Laboratory Centrifuge Operation Instructions

1. Make sure centrifuge is plugged in.
2. Always wear gloves when handling specimens.
3. Place covered/ capped test tube specimens into tube holders. Make sure specimens are all the way into holders.
4. Balance the load. Opposing tube holder must be identical and contain equally weighted samples. If an odd number of samples is to be spun, fill a tube with water to match with weight of the unpaired sample and place it across from this sample.
5. Close lid and secure latch.
6. Turn timer past 15 minutes then set to 10 minutes.
7. Once the timer reaches zero, power will be cut to the motor and the rotor will coast to a stop. Do not open the lid until the rotor has come to a complete stop.
8. Inspect samples for proper separation. If specimen did not separate properly repeat steps 2-8. If specimens still not separated properly call MNM Laboratory at 231.487.4219 for additional instructions.

Procedure for Spills inside a Centrifuge

1. Turn off the centrifuge immediately if you hear a tube break and do not open for 10 minutes. If you discover a broken tube after the centrifuge has stopped, close the lid and wait 10 minutes.
2. Put on personal protective equipment (gloves, lab coat, face protection).
3. Cover the contaminated inner surfaces of the centrifuge with paper towels and soak with disinfectant.
4. Allow 10 minute disinfectant contact time.
5. Use forceps to remove all pieces of broken glass. Place broken glass inside biohazard sharps container.
6. Wipe down all surfaces inside the centrifuge a second time with disinfectant. Dispose of waste in biohazard container.
7. Remove gloves and other protective equipment.
8. Thoroughly wash hands with soap and water.
9. Report spill to MNM Laboratory at 231.487.4219.