

How to Read Hematocrit Test

Hematocrit tests for the percentage of red blood cells in a patient's total blood volume.

Normal hematocrit for Canine: 35-55%

Normal hematocrit for Feline: 25-45%

How to prep hematocrit tubes:

1. Make sure sample is placed into a purple top or green top tube
2. Use the hematocrit tubes found in the cabinet under the Abaxis and centrifuge. Grab 2-4 tubes for testing. Grab the clay and hematocrit reader card from the bin on top of the counter by the lab fridge.
3. Tilt the purple or green top tube so that blood can flow into the hematocrit tube. Fill the tube 75-90% full. Cover the end of the hematocrit tube with your finger before pulling it out of the blood tube so it does not leak out.
4. Press the end of the tube not covered by your finger into the clay to plug the tube shut. Now you can let go of the other end that is plugged by your finger.
5. Repeat these steps for the other hematocrit tubes that you need to fill.

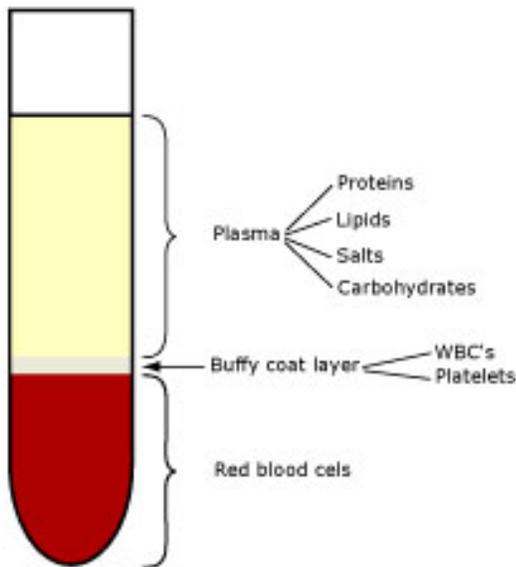
How to prep centrifuge and run hematocrit tubes:

6. Use the hexagon shaped screw-driver to loosen the screw in the middle of the centrifuge and remove the rotor that is used to spin down blood tubes.
7. Find the hematocrit insert for the centrifuge in the same cabinet where the hematocrit tubes were found.
8. Line up the grooves found in the center of the hematocrit insert to the grooves found on the screw in the centrifuge. This will ensure that it is put together securely. Screw bolt in.
9. Place tubes into their designated spaces so that they are evenly balanced around the rotor.
10. Place the clear circular hematocrit top on and screw on until it is tight.
11. Close the lid.
12. Use the >> button on the right side of centrifuge until rotor changes on the screen from 1 to 2
13. Set RPM to 11,000
14. Set time to 3 minutes

How to read results for hematocrit tubes

15. Take the clear circular hematocrit top off, unscrew the bolt.
16. Remove tubes.

17. Find the hematocrit reader card.
18. Line up the first tube, with the top of the white clay (at the bottom of the tube) lined up with the black line on the bottom of the card reader.
19. Line up the top of the plasma layer with the top black line on the card reader.
20. Find the line on the reader where the top of the red blood cell layer (without the buffy coat layer) meets. Note the percentage.
21. Repeat with the other tubes.



Created by Hannah Smith December 10, 2019