

Preparation of Serum for Corneal Ulcer Treatment Protocol

This is when a patient's own blood serum is used to promote healing of severe corneal ulcers.

Items needed:

Blood collection items

Blood sample from patient in serum separator tubes

Storage container (see option below)

1. Obtain blood sample from the patient
 - a. It is recommended to use a vacutainer or at least a 6ml syringe with the largest needle practical for the patient size. The large needle size is to reduce the risk of hemolysis of the sample
 - b. Fill at least 3 serum separator tubes, with the blood sample (more if you are able to)
 - c. Allow to clot and spin in the centrifuge as you would any other blood sample
2. Storage container:
 - a. Preferred choice ophthalmic/nasal prep bottles:
 - i. These are clear bottles with a white screw top lid and a nozzle to be inserted after serum is placed in the bottle if filled
 - b. Second choice - sterile tubes with no additive (white top tube)
 - i. Owner will need to be shown how to draw up the serum and administer WITH NEEDLE REMOVED
3. Fill only enough serum in each tube/bottle for 1 week of use
4. Serum stored in the fridge can be used for 1 week
5. Remaining serum should be frozen until needed. Stable for 30 days frozen.