

## Processing Item Information Sheet (PIIS)

### “RNA Extraction from Buffy Coat” Scheme [RNABFF26]

This sheet contains all the information on the **Buffy Coat Processing Item** that you should be aware of to conduct the above mentioned Scheme. **Please read carefully before performing any operation on the provided sample.**

### Processing Item Description

- Source material: Human blood from a healthy donor.
- Packaging: 0.5 ml Thermo tube with 0.1 ml of Buffy Coat in **RNAlater Stabilization Solution** (Invitrogen).
- Date of Preparation: September 2023.
- Testing of Biological Hazard: The Processing Item has been tested negative for HIV (ELISA and PCR), HCV (ELISA and PCR); Syphilis (ELISA), HBsAg (ELISA), HBV (PCR), HAV (PCR), Parvovirus B19 (PCR).
- Biosafety level: All operations have been conducted in a BSL 2 environment.
- Homogeneity and Stability Information: Homogeneity and stability of the Processing Item will be controlled and confirmed in July 2026.

### Instructions to Prepare the Processing Item for Extraction

- Any storage requirement between receipt and processing date: Store at **-80°C**. RNA extraction should be performed within 1 week of receipt.

### Particular Handling/Safety Requirements

- Potential risks of Processing Item: Exempt of infectious risk.
- Individual protection equipment required: Standard laboratory equipment (laboratory coat, gloves).
- In case of puncture or cuts: Wash thoroughly with water and then disinfect during 10 minutes.
- In case of contact with the eye: Wash thoroughly with water or physiologic serum during 5 minutes.
- In case of contact with the mucus membranes and skin: Wash thoroughly with water.
- Measures to take in case of accidental spillage: Use disinfectant and thoroughly clean the effected surface.
- Waste elimination procedures: Waste generated by healthcare activities, to eliminate in incinerable plastic containers.

### Scheme Specifications

- **Remove the RNAlater Stabilization Solution prior to extraction** (by centrifugation 15 min 1000g at 4°C).
- Please extract **RNA** from the Processing Item following your **usual routine RNA extraction method**.
- You will be asked to report information under the following scheme: **RNA Extraction from Buffy Coat**.
- Please be ready to enter the following information:
  - Extraction method (phenol/trizol-based, magnetic bead-based, silica membrane-based, unsure, other;

- Extraction equipment;
- Elution buffer composition (water, TE, other) and elution volume (µl);
- Use of DNase;
- Volume used for RNA extraction (ml). We recommend to use the total volume (0.1 ml) provided.

## What to Submit

- Once you have extracted RNA from the Buffy Coat (according to your extraction method), you pipet all the extracted RNA in the provided labelled Matrix 0.5 ml. The tube is already labelled with your Laboratory Number and the name of the Scheme (RNABFF26). **Make sure to properly close the tube to avoid evaporation or leakage.**
- IBBL requires a **minimum of 25 µl** of extract to perform the downstream analyses planned.
- As soon as extracted, the RNA tube must be shipped to the following address, by using the courier of your choice:

IBBL, PT Programme  
Biorepository – Laura GEORGES - First Floor  
1B Rue Louis Rech  
L-3555 Dudelange  
LUXEMBOURG  
Phone: +352 26970-521  
Email: [biorepository@ibbl.lu](mailto:biorepository@ibbl.lu)

- The extracted RNA can be temporarily stored at -80°C before shipment. In that case, the extracted RNA must be shipped to IBBL on dry ice.
- Shipment deliveries are accepted on weekdays between 08:30 and 16:30. Please note that IBBL cannot receive your sample on Saturdays nor Sundays.
- Your data must be submitted online to the PT website <http://biospecimenpt.ibbl.lu/> by employing the login credentials (User email and Password) used to create your account on the aforementioned PT platform.
- Please complete the questionnaire of the RNABFF26 PT scheme as accurately as possible, adding any relevant detail and comment in the appropriate section. Please note that any data that could impact group assignment and alter the final evaluation even slightly, cannot be modified after data entry has been closed as ISO/IEC 17043 considers correct identification of methods and results as part of the participant's competence assessment.

## Timelines

| <i>Shipment of the extracted RNA to IBBL</i> | <i>Data Submission</i>     | <i>Downstream analyses &amp; Report preparation</i> | <i>Reports available</i> |
|--|----------------------------|---|--------------------------|
| <b>Before</b> 10 NOV 2026                    | 17 NOV 2026, <b>latest</b> | 20 NOV 2026 – 31 JAN 2027                           | March 2027               |

**In case of doubts in the completion phase, please contact LIH/IBBL at [IBBLPT@lih.lu](mailto:IBBLPT@lih.lu)**