


# Memorandum

**To:** Interventional Radiology Clinicians  
**From:** Dwayne Breining, M.D., Senior Vice President, Laboratory Services, Northwell Health Laboratories  
**Date:** March 24, 2026  
**Re:** CSF Alzheimer's Markers Collection and Transport Update

**Explanation/Reason:** The specialized CSF Alzheimer's Markers Collection and Transport device and its accompanying instructions are *absolutely critical* to ensure the *analytical integrity and diagnostic accuracy* of cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) biomarker testing for Alzheimer's disease.

- Preventing Protein Adsorption (Key Problem):** Alzheimer's biomarkers (A $\beta$ 42, Tau, pTau) are "sticky" and adsorb to standard collection tubes, leading to falsely low measurements and inaccurate diagnoses.
- Specialized Device Design (The Solution):** Specialized "low-bind" tubes, made from materials that prevent **proteins** from sticking, ensure accurate biomarker measurement by keeping them suspended in the sample.

**In summary,** by utilizing the designated collection device and strictly following the provided instructions, you are actively preserving the true concentration and integrity of the Alzheimer's biomarkers within the CSF sample. This is essential for obtaining accurate and reliable test results, which are crucial for the correct diagnosis and management of Alzheimer's disease

Collection Requirements	New	
<b>Method:</b>	Roche ECLIA (FDA Approved)	
<b>Specimen Requirements:</b>	CSF	
<b>Submission Container/Tube:</b>	<b>Acceptable</b> <b>Sarstedt 2.5 mL Polypropylene Tube</b> (Order No. 63.614.625). 	<b>Unacceptable</b> Tubes <b>other than</b> polypropylene Standard polystyrene tubes
<b>Specimen Volume/ Minimum Volume</b>	Minimum volume 1.2 mL	
<b>Collection Instructions:</b>	Perform Lumbar Puncture (LP) using gravity drip collection method. Use only polypropylene tubing. Perform LP before noon if at all possible. Do not use the first 2 mL of CSF for AD Biomarker measurement. Subsequently, collect between 1.2 mL- 2.5 mL of CSF directly into the <b>Sarstedt CSF tube order number 63.614.625</b> for AD biomarker measurements. Note: The mark on the tube indicates 2.5 mL. <b>Do not</b> mix, invert, or transfer to another tube. Transport to the lab chilled.	
<b>Specimen Stability:</b>	Room Temperature: 5 days Refrigerated: 14 days	Frozen: 56 days
<b>Reject Criteria:</b>	Gross Hemolysis, <b>Wrong Tube Material</b>	
<b>Test Orders:</b>	<b>TAUCSF, ADBIO, or Any CSF Biomarkers for Alzheimer's Disease</b>	
<b>Computer Interface Code:</b>	<b>PDM # 2159034, 2159233</b>	

