Intended use
Potassium Oxalate, 5% w/v is recommended as anticoagulant of blood for sugar determination.

Composition

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ingredients</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Potassium oxalate</td>
<td>5.0 gm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Distilled water</td>
<td>100.0 ml</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Formula adjusted, standardized to suit performance parameters**

Directions
Measure 0.5 ml of this solution into stoppered test tubes. These are dried at room temperature or in an oven at not more than 60°C. The dry mixture is used so as not to dilute the blood. Place 5 ml blood into this anticoagulated tube and invert the stoppered tube gently for about 5 times to ensure adequate mixing.

Principle And Interpretation
Coagulation of blood can be prevented by various ways, one of them is by adding oxalates. Potassium oxalate shrinks the red blood cells, whereas ammonium oxalate produces swelling of the cells. When combined as a double oxalate mixture, they do not affect the shape of the red cells and therefore do not influence the haematocrit. Heparin is an excellent anticoagulant but is more expensive than other chemicals. Potassium oxalate is commonly used when oxalate is required since it is more soluble than sodium or lithium salts.

Type of specimen
Clinical samples: blood sample

Specimen Collection and Handling

1. For clinical samples follow appropriate techniques for handling specimens as per established guidelines(1,2).

Warning and Precautions
In Vitro diagnostic use only. Read the label before opening the container. Wear protective gloves/protective clothing/eye protection/face protection. Follow good microbiological lab practices while handling specimens and culture. Standard precautions as per established guidelines should be followed while handling clinical specimens. Safety guidelines may be referred in individual safety data sheets.

Performance and Evaluation
Performance of the product is expected when used as per the direction on the label within the expiry period when stored at recommended temperature.

Quality Control

Appearance
Colourless liquid. Colourless liquid.

Clarity
Clear with no insoluble particles. Clear with no insoluble particles.

Concentration
4.90% - 5.10%

Procedure
Measure 0.5 ml of the reagent (Potassium oxalate) 0.5% w/v into stoppered test tubes. These are dried at room temperature or in an oven at not more than 60°C. The dry mixture is used so as not to dilute the blood. Place 5 ml blood into anticoagulated tube and invert tube gently about 5 times to ensure adequate mixing.

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Results

The set concentration of Potassium Oxalate keeps the blood uncoagulated. The set concentration of Potassium Oxalate keeps the blood uncoagulated.

Storage and Shelf Life

Store between 10-30°C in tightly closed container and away from bright light. Use before expiry date on label. On opening, product should be properly stored in dry ventilated area protected from extremes of temperature and sources of ignition. Seal the container tightly after use.

Disposal

User must ensure safe disposal by autoclaving and/or incineration of used or unusable preparations of this product. Follow established laboratory procedures in disposing of infectious materials and material that comes into contact with clinical sample must be decontaminated and disposed of in accordance with current laboratory techniques (3,4).

Reference

5. Godkar P.B; 1994, Textbook of Medical Laboratory technology, Bhalani Publication House, Mumbai India.