

# EZ-Spot™

## How to Collect and Prepare the Samples

EZ-Spot™, our dry whole blood spot sample collection method, offers an alternative to submitting mouse or rat serum for serology testing at Charles River Research Animal Diagnostic Services. The EZ-Spot™ method uses the same highly sensitive and specific Multiplexed Fluorometric ImmunoAssay® (MFIA®) platform for testing and has demonstrated comparable analytical and diagnostic sensitivity and specificity, reproducibility and ruggedness during the R&D qualification process.

### Instructions

- Collect a minimum of 25 µL volume of whole blood using the method with which you are most comfortable.
- A 25 µL drop of blood will fill the entire spot circle and will be approximately 10 mm in diameter. See Figure 1.
- Blood can be spotted directly from the animal onto the EZ-Spot™ card or drawn into a heparinized capillary tube as the intermediary step. Also, whole blood collected in EDTA can be spotted directly onto the cards. For terminal bleeds via cardiac puncture, blood can be spotted directly from the syringe tip onto the EZ-Spot™ card.
- To add sample identification information, simply write on the card cover or affix label(s).
- Prior to folding the card cover, allow the blood to dry on the card for 1 hour.
- Once dry, fold the card cover, place in a zip-top bag with desiccant (provided) and store at room temperature.
- Place zip-top bag(s) in a small shipping box (provided) and ship at ambient temperature using a commercial carrier (e.g., FedEx®, UPS®) to our laboratory in Wilmington, MA.

### Benefits of EZ-Spot™

- Save sample collection time
- Lower sample shipping costs
- Reduce animal use
- Support humane care
- Incur no additional costs

Figure 1



Visit [www.criver.com/ezspot](http://www.criver.com/ezspot) to request your free EZ-Spot™ sample cards and review technical information with qualification data, or contact us at [askcharlesriver@crl.com](mailto:askcharlesriver@crl.com) for more information.

Please note that the EZ-Spot™ is simply another option for sample collection; Charles River Research Animal Diagnostic Services will continue to accept vials with serum samples diluted 1 part serum into 4 parts phosphate buffered saline (PBS) with antimicrobial agent, shipped overnight at ambient temperature.