

The Canadian medical doctors and host medical staff were responsible for venepuncture, as well as for interviewing each person donating blood and urine specimens. The Canadian laboratory technician was responsible for sample safety, sample security/integrity, and for the transport of samples to the analytical laboratory in Canada.

2.3 Equipment

Equipment taken by the team included:

2.3.1 Sample Collection - Blood

- 500 Monoject Sterile Blood Collection Tubes (in 5 boxes), approximate draw 10 ml; no interior coating; stopper lubrication, silicone; dry additive, Sodium Heparin (U.S.P. Grade; source, hog intestinal mucosa, 143 U.S.P. units; Monoject, Sherwood Medical, St. Louis, MO, USA). The silicone lubrication of the stopper was intended to impede contact of any toxin/chemical in the sample with the often-used Tris-butoxyethylphosphate in the rubber stoppers which could produce unwelcome artifacts in the subsequent analysis.
- 1,000 Venoject Blood Collection Needles (in 10 boxes), sterile, 20 G X 1½" (Terumo Corporation, Tokyo, Japan).

2.3.2 Sample Collection - Urine

- 360 "Scintillation Vials", 18 ml, polypropylene (Beckman Instruments Inc., Toronto, Canada). These vials were chosen since GC-MS analysis showed that they were essentially inert.

To each vial was added 250 ul. of Thymol in methyl alcohol (80 g/100ml) as a preservative.