Plasma Isolation from Human Peripheral Blood (i.e. PTEN)

Note: This protocol assumes the investigator is beginning this with full Yellow-Top (type A) BD Vacutainer tubes of human blood (roughly 8.5 mL). Plasma is *not* the same as serum.

1) In a centrifuge capable of safely spinning blood tubes, spin the blood at roughly 900xg for 15 minutes at room temperature. (In IEC HN-SII centrifuge: set speed to ¾)
2) Remove the tubes from the centrifuge, and in a clean and safe environment, open the tubes to access the plasma located at the top of the specimen. *Note: if you intend to immortalize lymphoblastoid cultures or perform sterile work on the remaining cells, this step must be performed in a biosafety cabinet.*
3) Using a 1000 µl pipettor, carefully transfer 1 mL of the plasma into appropriately labeled amber screw-cap microcentrifuge tubes. If 1 mL is not possible, transfer as much as reasonably possible without disturbing or collecting any of the cells in the buffy coat.
4) As soon as possible, place and store the collected plasma at -80°C.
5) Use the remaining material for one or more of the desired processes (ie DNA, RNA, LCL).
6) If the remaining material is to be used for DNA, careful remix the contents after securing the plug, place in a 50 mL conical tube and store at -20oC for batch processing (using SOP GMB002A or GMB002B, depending on blood volume).