

# PD GENERation

POWERED BY THE PARKINSON'S FOUNDATION

## Tasso+ Device Frequently Asked Questions

### 1. What is in my PD GENERation Tasso+ kit?

Your kit should contain the following items:

- 1) Tasso+ Blood Lancing Device;
- 2) compatible tube;
- 3) tube label;
- 4) heat pack;
- 5) bandage;
- 6) alcohol swab;
- 7) a specimen bag;
- 8) the Tasso+ box with shipping return label;
- 9) FedEx pick up instructional postcard;
- 10) a Parkinson's Foundation Helpline postcard.

### 2. How does the Tasso+ device work? Is it safe to use?

The Tasso+ device is a sterile, disposable blood lancing device. When collecting a sample, the device is held onto the skin by a mild adhesive at your upper arm. A sterile lancet punctures the surface of the skin with a press of the button and then permanently retracts back inside the device. Blood is then able to flow into the attached tube via a vacuum that forms. The lancet is single use and automatically retracts into the device in a safe position after the button is pushed.

### 3. Can I use the Tasso+ device more than once?

No. The button can only be pushed one time to release the lancet. Once the button is pushed, the device cannot be used again. It is important to wait to use the device until you are ready to collect and ship your sample.

### 4. How long does it take to collect my blood sample?

The typical blood collection time is 5 minutes. In some cases, it can take 1-2 minutes for blood to appear in the tube. Blood collection should be stopped as soon as the top fill line is reached, and blood collection **should not exceed 5 minutes**, even if the top fill line is not reached.

### 5. Any tips for how to best use the Tasso+ device?

Yes, we have a few tips for best use below. There are some things you can do to ensure your collection is successful.

- Be well hydrated and drink 8-16 ounces of water 30 minutes before collection.
- Do some arm movements or light arm exercises right before collection, if possible.
- Keep your arm completely relaxed by your side while the Tasso device is on your arm.

### 6. How do I dispose of my Tasso+ device after use?

The lancet retracts back into the device after use and will not deploy again. You can dispose of the kit contents safely in your own home in your regular trash bin. Reminder: The kit itself has the pre-paid shipping label attached. The kit box will be used to ship back the collection tube.

**7. How do I send the kit to the testing lab?**

The Tasso+ kit includes a pre-paid shipping label. It is important to send your kit back on the same day you collect your sample. If you are unable to send it back on the same day as your collection, you can store your sample in the fridge until shipping if needed. You can drop it off at your local FedEx store or schedule a same-day FedEx pick-up using the card included in your kit.

Note: Tasso+ kit shipping has changed from UPS to FedEx. Some kits might have a UPS label and postcard. If yours has a UPS label, you may still use it and send via UPS instead.

**8. What happens if there is an error with collection and I need a new device?**

If you need a new Tasso+ kit, please see the option below:

- a) If you enrolled in PD GENERation through your neurologist or on-site, please reach out to your neurologist or site for a new Tasso+ kit.
- b) If you enrolled online, please email [genetics@parkinson.org](mailto:genetics@parkinson.org) and request a new kit.

**9. Who can I contact if I have questions?**

If you have questions, you can call the Parkinson's Foundation Helpline at 1-800-473-4636 or email the PD GENERation team at [genetics@parkinson.org](mailto:genetics@parkinson.org).