

## **Standard Operating Procedure 610**

### **Sample Preservation**

#### *Purpose*

Sample preservation techniques are intended to prevent substantial alteration of the chemical species present in the sample at the moment it was collected.

#### *Required Equipment*

- Clean cooler with temperature blank bottle
- Ice or frozen cold packs
- Sample containers with media

#### *Procedure*

1. Immediately after media collection, all sample containers will be placed in a clean cooler under ice, to thermally preserve the samples. The cooler must also contain a temperature blank bottle, also kept under the ice.
2. The sample containers will be kept in an environment that is between 0° and 4° Celsius until the laboratory receives the samples. The sample custodian must ensure that some ice remains in the cooler and that excess water from melted ice is drained.
3. In addition, chemical preservatives may be added to individual samples depending on the analytical methods required. In general, the laboratory will supply pre-preserved sample containers for the project and only laboratory-grade preservatives will be used.