CLAIM

1. A specimen mixing and transfer device adapted to receive a fluid sample, comprising:

a housing having a first end comprising an inlet for receiving the fluid sample, a second end comprising an outlet for expelling at least a portion of the fluid sample therefrom, and a sidewall extending therebetween;

a material including pores ~~and~~ disposed within the housing between the inlet and the outlet; and

a dry anticoagulant powder within the pores of the material.

2. The specimen mixing and transfer device of claim 1, wherein the sample is a blood sample.

3. The specimen mixing and transfer device of claim 1, wherein, when the blood sample is received within the housing, the material is configured to allow the blood sample to pass therethrough for effectively mixing the blood sample with the dry anticoagulant powder.

4. The specimen mixing and transfer device of claim 1, wherein the material is an open cell foam.

5. The specimen mixing and transfer device of claim 1, wherein the material is a sponge.

6. The specimen mixing and transfer device of claim 1, wherein the housing further comprises a mixing chamber, the material disposed within the mixing chamber.

7. The specimen mixing and transfer device of claim 6, wherein the housing further comprises an inlet channel in fluid communication with the inlet and the mixing chamber and an outlet channel in fluid communication with the mixing chamber and the outlet.

8. The specimen mixing and transfer device of claim 7, wherein the housing further comprises a dispensing chamber between the mixing chamber and the outlet.

9. A specimen mixing and transfer device adapted to receive a fluid sample, comprising:

a housing having a first end comprising an inlet for receiving the fluid sample, a second end comprising an outlet for expelling at least a portion of the fluid sample therefrom, and a sidewall extending therebetween;

a dry anticoagulant powder disposed within the housing between the inlet and the outlet; and

a mixing element disposed within the housing between the inlet and the outlet.

10. The specimen mixing and transfer device of claim 9, wherein the sample is a blood sample.

11. The specimen mixing and transfer device of claim 9, wherein, with the blood sample received within the housing, the mixing element interferes with a flow of the blood sample to promote mixing of the blood sample with the dry anticoagulant powder.

12. The specimen mixing and transfer device of claim 9, wherein the dry anticoagulant powder is deposited on an interior surface of the housing.

13. The specimen mixing and transfer device of claim 9, wherein the mixing element comprises a plurality of posts.

14. The specimen mixing and transfer device of claim 9, wherein the housing further comprises a mixing chamber, the dry anticoagulant powder disposed within the mixing chamber.

15. The specimen mixing and transfer device of claim 14, wherein the housing further comprises an inlet channel in fluid communication with the inlet and the mixing chamber and an outlet channel in fluid communication with the mixing chamber and the outlet.

16. The specimen mixing and transfer device of claim 15, wherein the housing further comprises a dispensing chamber between the mixing chamber and the outlet.

17. The specimen mixing and transfer device of claim 15, wherein the housing further comprises two diverted flow channels between the inlet channel and the outlet channel.