

STABILITY OF FETAL DNA ISOLATED FROM STRECK CELL-FREE DNA™ BCT AFTER 14 DAYS

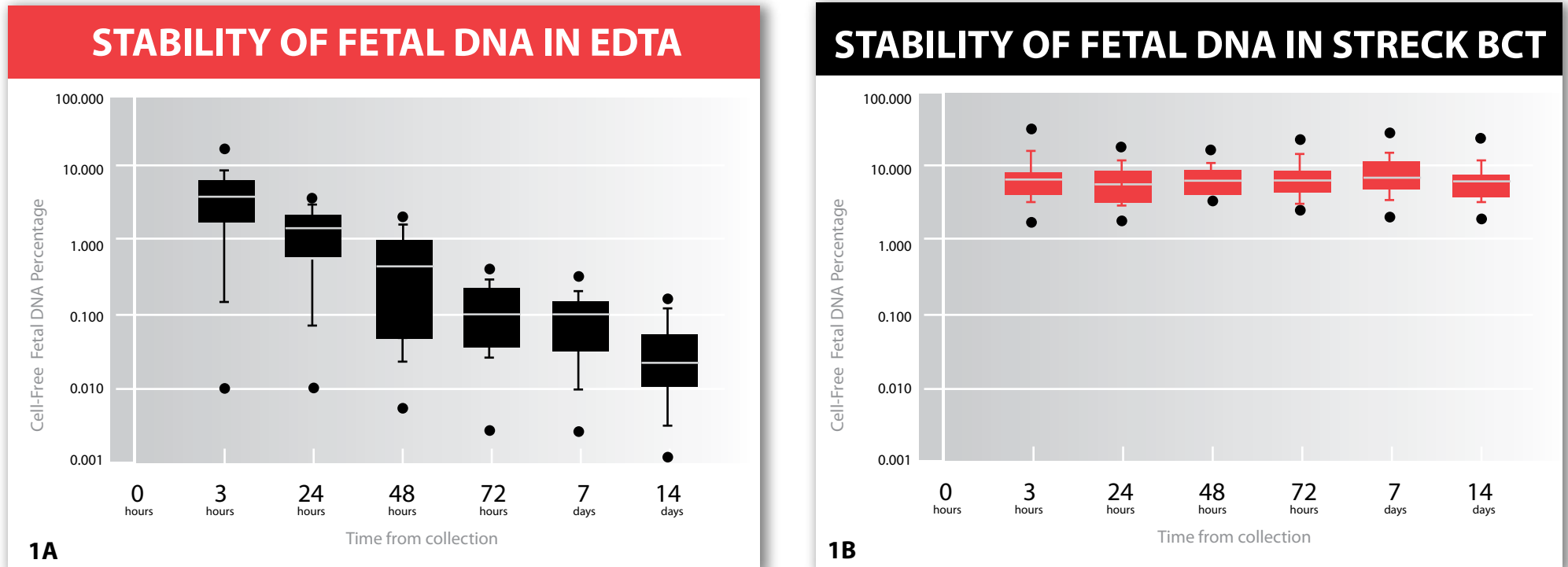


Figure 1. Effect of ex-vivo incubation of blood samples obtained from first trimester pregnant donors on plasma fetal cell-free DNA proportion. Blood samples were drawn into either K₃EDTA tubes (**1A**) or Cell-Free DNA BCT (**1B**) and stored at room temperature. Aliquots of blood were removed from each tube at 3 hrs, 24 hrs, 48 hrs, 72 hrs, 7 days and 14 days and the plasma was separated. After the plasma cell-free DNA was isolated, it was treated with BstUI methylation sensitive restriction enzyme to remove all unmethylated maternal RASSF1A sequences and then methylated fetal RASSF1A was quantified by Real-Time PCR. A plasmid DNA construct containing a single copy of RASSF1A gene promoter sequence was used to plot the standard curve for the quantification. In each box plot, fetal cell-free DNA is represented as a percentage of total cell-free DNA in maternal plasma. The line inside of the box indicates the median value. The limits of the box represent the 75th and 25th percentiles. The upper and lower error bars indicate the 10th and 90th percentiles, respectively. The uppermost and lowermost dots indicate the maximum and minimum values.