

## **Guidelines for Amino Acid Analysis Sample Preparation**

### **General sample handling**

To minimize protein losses from adsorption to walls of tubes, use polypropylene tubes or silicized polypropylene tubes. Avoid polystyrene (clear plastic) and glass.  
Use freshly prepared, high purity reagents and water. Contaminants from buffers, detergents, lipids can prevent a good analysis result.

### **Sample submission**

- ◆ In solution or on pvdf
- ◆ minimum 50 pmol of protein

### **The sample should NOT contain at all**

Non-volatile salts and buffers (e.g. ammonium acetate, Tris)  
Non-volatile amines  
Detergents  
Glycerol  
Lipids  
Salts and buffers > 50 mM  
Metal ions

### **The sample MUST contain**

At least 50 pmol of protein in a volatile solvent or lyophilized

(50 pmol of protein equals 2.5 ug for MW =50kD; the higher the Mol.Wt., the more protein needed)