**Standard Operating Procedure for**

**Vacuum Desiccator**

**Purpose: To store samples in vacuum**

Procedure

1. Make sure the vacuum pump is switched off
2. Place your sample inside the desiccator and close it properly
3. There are red knobs connected to the desiccator, over which there are three arrow marks, if one of the arrow points towards the open outlet nozzle, air can easily pass in and out of the desiccator
4. Now connect the one end of the pipe from vacuum pump to the outlet nozzle of the desiccator, make sure to open the knob iz. One arrow should point towards the outlet
5. Always keep the vacuum pipe straight
6. Switch on the power supply and the main switch of the vacuum pump
7. Wait until the pressure reading shows in the range 500-600 mbar
8. Switch off the vacuum pump and close the knob iz. The arrow should not point towards the outlet
9. Remove the vacuum pipe from the desiccator and connect it some other desiccator, never leave the vacuum pipe open