

## BD Vacutainer Order of Draw

When drawing blood directly or transferring from a syringe into vacutainer tubes, it is extremely important to follow the specified order of draw. Some tubes have either liquid or powdered anticoagulants or powdered glass. If drawn out of order, test results can be significantly different or incorrect. For example, a lavender top EDTA tube has potassium as part of the anticoagulant and the EDTA also acts by binding up calcium. If drawn before a chemistry tube the resulting potassium can show as critically elevated and the calcium as critically low.



Helping all people  
live healthy lives

# BD Vacutainer® Order of Draw for Multiple Tube Collections

*Designed for Your Safety*

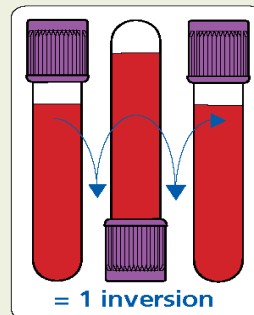
Reflects change in CLSI recommended  
Order of Draw (H3-A5, Vol 23, No 32, 8.10.2)

Closure Color	Collection Tube	Mix by Inverting
<b>BD Vacutainer® Blood Collection Tubes (glass or plastic)</b>		
	• Blood Cultures - SPS	<b>8 to 10 times</b>
	• Citrate Tube*	<b>3 to 4 times</b>
or	• BD Vacutainer® SST™ Gel Separator Tube	<b>5 times</b>
	• Serum Tube <i>(glass or plastic)</i>	<b>5 times (plastic) none (glass)</b>
	• BD Vacutainer® Rapid Serum Tube (RST)	<b>5 to 6 times</b>
or	• BD Vacutainer® PST™ Gel Separator Tube With Heparin	<b>8 to 10 times</b>
	• Heparin Tube	<b>8 to 10 times</b>
or	• EDTA Tube	<b>8 to 10 times</b>
	• BD Vacutainer® PPT™ Separator Tube K <sub>2</sub> EDTA with Gel	<b>8 to 10 times</b>
	• Fluoride (glucose) Tube	<b>8 to 10 times</b>

\* When using a winged blood collection set for venipuncture and a coagulation (citrate) tube is the first specimen tube to be drawn, a discard tube should be drawn first. The discard tube must be used to fill the blood collection set tubing's "dead space" with blood but the discard tube does not need to be completely filled. This important step will ensure proper blood-to-additive ratio. The discard tube should be a nonadditive or coagulation tube.

**Note: Always follow your facility's protocol for order of draw**

Handle all biologic samples and blood collection "sharps" (lancets, needles, luer adapters and blood collection sets) according to the policies and procedures of your facility. Obtain appropriate medical attention in the event of any exposure to biologic samples (for example, through a puncture injury) since they may transmit viral hepatitis, HIV (AIDS), or other infectious diseases. Utilize any built-in used needle protector if the blood collection device provides one. BD does not recommend resheating used needles, but the policies and procedures of your facility may differ and must always be followed. Discard any blood collection "sharps" in biohazard containers approved for their disposal.



**BD Technical Services**  
**1.800.631.0174**  
**BD Customer Service**  
**1.888.237.2762**  
[www.bd.com/vacutainer](http://www.bd.com/vacutainer)

1 Becton Drive  
Franklin Lakes, NJ 07417  
[www.bd.com/vacutainer](http://www.bd.com/vacutainer)

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Franklin Lakes, NJ, 07417 1/10 VS5729-6