

# Collection Tube Requirements of Commonly Ordered Tests - *Inpatient*

**TABLE I: ORDER OF DRAW**

ORDER TO DRAW	ABBREVIATION	TUBE COLOR	MATRIX	MIX WELL BY GENTLY INVERTING
1	Blood culture specimens need to be drawn first. Then a discard tube is drawn between the blood culture and first tube drawn for other testing.			
2	BLUE	Light Blue	Sodium Citrate Plasma	Must be filled to minimum fill line. Invert 8-10 times.
3	RED	Red	Serum, no gel	Invert 8-10 times.
3	SST	Gold	Serum, SST	Invert 8-10 times.
4	GRN	Mint Green	Lithium Heparin Plasma, PST	Invert 8-10 times.
5	LAV	Lavender	EDTA Plasma	Fill to at least half full. Invert 8-10 times.
6	GREY	Grey	Sodium Fluoride/ Potassium Oxalate Plasma	Invert 8-10 times.

**TABLE II: SPECIMEN TYPES FOR COMMONLY ORDERED TESTS**

ANALYTE	TEST MNEMONIC(S)	TUBE	NOTE	ANALYTE	TEST MNEMONIC(S)	TUBE	NOTE	ANALYTE	TEST MNEMONIC(S)	TUBE	NOTE
<b>CHEMISTRY</b>				<b>CHEMISTRY (cont.)</b>				<b>TOXICOLOGY</b>			
Albumin	ALB	GRN		LDH	LDH	GRN		Alcohol (Ethanol)	ETOH	GRN	No alc wipe
ALP	ALP	GRN		Lipase	LIPASE	GRN		Digoxin	DIG	GRN	See Note 2
ALT	SGPT	GRN		Lipid Profile	LIPR, LIPRFLX	GRN		Phenytoin, Total	DIL	GRN	See Note 2
Ammonia	NH3	LAV	ON ICE	Magnesium	MG, OB MG	GRN		Theophylline	THEO	GRN	
Amylase	AMY	GRN		Myoglobin	MYOGLQ	GRN		Vancomycin	VAN, VAN PK, VAN TR	GRN	
AST	SGOT	GRN		Phosphorus	PHOS	GRN		<b>HEMATOLOGY &amp; COAGULATION</b>			
Basic Panel	BASIC, BASICGFR	GRN		Potassium	K	GRN		Activated PTT	PTT	BLUE	
BNP	BNP	LAV		Procalcitonin	Not Available	GRN		CBC with Auto-Diff	CBCA	LAV	
Calcium	CA	GRN		PSA, Total	PSA, PSA ANNUAL	SST		CBC withOUT Auto-Diff	CBCN	LAV	
Chloride	CL	GRN		Ren Func Panel	RENAL, RENALGFR	GRN		DIC Panel	DIC	LAV	Both specimens
Cholesterol	CHOL	GRN		Sodium	NA	GRN	BLUE				
CO <sub>2</sub> , Total	CO2	GRN		T3, Total	T3T	SST		ESR	ESR	LAV	
Comp Panel	COMP, COMPGFR	GRN		T4, Total	T4T	SST		Fibrinogen	FIB	BLUE	
CK-MB	CK/MB	GRN		T4, Free	T4F	SST		Hb & Hematocrit	HH	LAV	
CK	CK	GRN		Triglyceride	TRIG	GRN		PT-INR	PT-INR	BLUE	
Creatinine	CR	GRN		Troponin I	TROPONI	GRN		Reticulocyte Count	RTC AUTO	LAV	
Electrolytes	LYT, NEO LYT	GRN		TSH	TSH, TSHR	SST		<b>TIPS FOR PREVENTING HEMOLYSIS</b>			
Electrophoresis, Serum Protein	PELP, PELP R	SST		UIBC	IRON IBC	GRN		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Do not leave tourniquet on longer than 1 minute. This is one of the most common causes of hemolysis.</li> <li>Do not shake tubes vigorously.</li> <li>Tubes should be gently inverted 8-10 times.</li> <li>Do not pull on syringe too hard.</li> <li>Do not lay tubes on their sides. Store tubes upright after collection.</li> </ul>			
Ferritin	FTN	SST		Urea Nit, Blood	BUN	GRN					
Folate, Serum	FOL	SST		Vitamin B12	B12	SST					
GGT	GGT	GRN		<b>SEROLOGY – INFECTIOUS DISEASE</b>							
Glucose	GLU LVL	GRN		Hep Acute Panel	HEP ACUTE	SST					
β-HCG, Total	HCGP, HCGQ	GRN		Hep Bs Ab	HEP B SAB	SST					
Hemoglobin A <sub>1c</sub>	HGBA1C	LAV		Hep Bs Ag	HEP B SAG	SST					
Hep Func Panel	HEPFUNC	GRN		Hep Chron Panel	HEP CHRONIC	2 SST					
Iron	FE	GRN		Hepatitis C Ab	HEP C AB	SST					
Lactate	LACT	GREY	ON ICE	HIV Ab & p24 Ag	HIV SCN DIFF	SST					

**NOTES: 1.)** Mint green top tubes are listed where appropriate to minimize turn-around-time. **2.)** DIG and DIL must be removed from gel within 24 hours of collection.

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