

Collection Tube Requirements of Commonly Ordered Tests - Outreach

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