

# Collection Tube Requirements of Commonly Ordered Tests – RCH ED Quick Guide

**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/ PANEL	TEST MNEMONIC(S)	TUBE	NOTE	ANALYTE/ PANEL	TEST MNEMONIC(S)	TUBE	NOTE	ANALYTE/ PANEL	TEST MNEMONIC(S)	TUBE	NOTE
<b>CHEMISTRY</b>				<b>CHEMISTRY (cont.)</b>				<b>SEROLOGY – INFECTIOUS DISEASE</b>			
Albumin	ALB	GRN		Potassium	K	GRN		Hep Acute Panel	HEP ACUTE	SST	
Ammonia	NH3	LAV	ON ICE	Sodium	NA	GRN		Hep Chron Panel	HEP CHRONIC	2 SST	
Amylase	AMY	GRN		T3, Total	T3T	SST		Hepatitis C Ab	HEP C AB	SST	
AST	SGOT	GRN		T4, Total	T4T	SST		HIV Ab & p24 Ag	HIV SCN DIFF	SST	
Bilirubin, Direct	BIL, D	GRN	Amber Tube	T4, Free	T4F	SST		Mono Ab Screen	MONO	LAV	
Bilirubin, Total	BILT	GRN	Amber Tube	Triglyceride	TRIG	GRN		<b>HEMATOLOGY, COAGULATION, &amp; BLOOD BANK</b>			
BHB	BHB	GRN		Troponin I	TROPONI	GRN		Activated PTT	PTT	BLUE	
BNP	BNP	LAV		TSH	TSH, TSHR	SST		Blood Bank	See Test Table	2 LAV	4 mL
Calcium	CA	GRN		Urea Nit, Blood	BUN	GRN		CBC with Auto-Diff	CBCA	LAV	
Cholesterol	CHOL	GRN		Vitamin B12	B12	SST		CBC withOUT Auto-Diff	CBCN	LAV	
Comp Panel	COMP, COMPGFR	GRN		<b>TOXICOLOGY</b>				DIC Panel	DIC	LAV	Both specimens
CK-MB	CKMB	GRN		Acetaminophen	ACETAM	GRN		Direct Antiglobulin Test	BB DAT	LAV	Coombs
CK	CK	GRN		Alcohol (Ethanol)	ETOH	GRN	No alc wipe	ESR	ESR	LAV	
CRP	CRP S	GRN		Carbamazepine	TEG	GRN	See note 3	Fibrinogen	FIB	BLUE	
Creatinine	CR	GRN		Digoxin	DIG	GRN	See note 3	Hb & Hematocrit	HH	LAV	
Ferritin	FTN	GRN		Lamotrigine	LAMOT	GRN		PT-INR	PT-INR	BLUE	
GGT	GGT	GRN		Levetiracetam	LEVET	LAV		Reticulocyte Count	RTC AUTO	LAV	
β-HCG, Total	HCGP, HCGQ	GRN		Lithium	LI	LAV		<b>TIPS FOR PREVENTING HEMOLYSIS</b>			
Hemoglobin A <sub>1c</sub>	HGBA1C	LAV		Oxcarbazepine	OXCARB	LAV		<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>			
Hep Func Panel	HEPFUNC	GRN		Phenytoin, Total	DIL	GRN	See note 3				
Iron	FE	GRN		Salicylate	SALIC	GRN					
Lactate	LACT	GREY	ON ICE	Valproic Acid	VALP	GRN					
LDH	LDH	GRN		Vancomycin	VAN, VAN PK, VAN TR	GRN					
Lipase	LIPASE	GRN		<b>RESPIRATORY THERAPY</b>							
Lipid Profile	LIPR, LIPRFLX	GRN		Blood Gases, Venous or Arterial	VBG, ABG	LAV	Whole Blood in heparinized Blood Gas Syringe	LAV	LAV	LAV	Deliver to RT
Magnesium	MG, OB MG	GRN		Critical Care Panel	CCP						
Myoglobin	MYOGLQ	GRN		Carboxy-hemoglobin	RT CO						
Phosphorus	PHOS	GRN		Ionized Calcium	RT CA ION						

**NOTES:** 1.) Check the Legacy Lab Services Test Guide for minimum serum/plasma volumes. Multiply the serum/plasma volume by 2.5 to get the whole blood volume. (For example, when 1 mL serum is required you should draw 2.5 mL whole blood.) 2.) Mint green top tubes are listed where appropriate to minimize turn-around-time. 3.) TEG, DIG, and DIL must be removed from gel within 24 hours of collection.