













Order of Draw for Evacuated Tube and Syringe Blood Collection

- Verify that you are using a tube with the correct additive. Tube top colors may vary between manufacturers.
- Do not use expired tubes or tubes that have dropped on the floor.
- GENTLY invert all tubes immediately after collection. DO NOT shake tubes.

CONTAINER	ADDITIVE	COMMONLY ORDERED TESTS	IMPORTANT INFORMATION
 Blood Culture Vials	Culture Medium	Blood Cultures (bacterial and/or fungal) (If AFB specified, call Lab for instructions)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Collect specimen in both vials (aerobic and anaerobic). ▪ Must be drawn with winged collection device (using a discard tube) or a syringe (using a syringe transfer device).
 Light Blue (Plasma)  Partial Draw Top	Sodium Citrate 3.2%	Protine PTT Fibrinogen Coagulation Studies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Draw 1-2 mL of blood in a light-blue-top discard tube before filling sample tube. ▪ Sample tube MUST be filled to indicator line for valid test results. ▪ Do NOT remove clots or send clotted specimens. ▪ Do NOT add two partially filled tubes together.
 Red (serum)	Clot Activator (no gel)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Use for serum collections when Gel Barrier tubes should NOT be used
 Gold with Gel Barrier (serum)	Clot Activator Gel Serum Separator	CMP, Lipid Profile Hepatitis Profiles HIV Thyroid Profiles Therapeutic drugs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ SST for serum determinations in Chemistry ▪ Invert tubes to ensure proper mixing of clot activator. Clotting time 30 min.
 Green (Plasma)  Green w/Gel (Plasma)	Lithium Heparin Lithium Heparin Sep (Gel) Sodium Heparin		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ These tubes are NOT interchangeable. See Directory of Services or call Client Services, 505-938-8922 or 800-245-3296.
 Lavender (plasma/whole blood)	EDTA K2	CBC ESR (SED Rate) Hemoglobin A1C	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Do NOT remove clots or send clotted specimens.
 Pink (plasma/whole blood)	EDTA K2	ABO/Rh	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Do NOT draw for CBC ▪ Do NOT remove clots or send clotted specimens
 Gray (plasma)	Sodium Fluoride/ Potassium Oxalate	Glucose Testing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Routinely used for glucose testing ▪ Do NOT remove clots or send clotted specimens
 Yellow (whole blood)	ACD Solution	Special Testing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Solution A and Solution B tubes are interchangeable ▪ Do NOT remove clots or send clotted specimens
	Draw Royal Blue top tubes in the order indicated by the additive. Additives indicated by color strip on label: RED strip: No additives GREEN strip: Na Heparin LAVENDER strip: EDTA		