### Order of Draw and Commonly Ordered Tests 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.

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| Blood Culture Vials     | Culture Medium           | Blood Cultures (bacterial and/or fungal)                    | • 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)     | Sodium Citrate 3.2%      | Protime, PTT, Fibrinogen, Coagulation Studies              | • 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)  | Iron Profile, Lipid Profile, Hepatitis Profile, HIV, Thyroid Profiles, Therapeutic drugs  | • SST for serum determinations in Chemistry  
  • Invert tubes to ensure proper mixing of clot activator. Clotting time 30 min.                                                                                                                                  |
| Gold w/ Gel Barrier     | Clot Activator Gel       | Iron Profile, Lipid Profile, Hepatitis Profile, HIV, Thyroid Profiles, Therapeutic drugs  | • SST for serum determinations in Chemistry  
  • Invert tubes to ensure proper mixing of clot activator. Clotting time 30 min.                                                                                                                                  |
| Green (Plasma)          | Lithium Heparin         | Preferred container for Inpatient Chem profiles including: BMP, CMP, Electrolytes, Hepatic Function  | • 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  | • Do NOT remove clots or send clotted specimens.                                                                                                           |
| Pink (plasma/whole blood) | EDTA K2    | ABO/Rh  | • Do NOT draw for CBC  
  • Do NOT remove clots or send clotted specimens                                                                                                           |
| Gray (plasma)           | Sodium Fluoride/Potassium Oxalate | Glucose Testing  | Routinely used for glucose testing  
  • Do NOT remove clots or send clotted specimens                                                                                                           |
| Yellow (whole blood)    | ACD Solution             | Special Testing  | Solution A and Solution B tubes are interchangeable  
  • Do NOT remove clots or send clotted specimens                                                                                                           |

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