











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.

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%	Protime 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 w/ Gel Barrier (serum)	Clot Activator Gel Serum Separator	Iron Profile, Lipid Profile Hepatitis Profile, HIV, Thyroid Profiles Therapeutic drugs Preferred container for Outpatient Chem profiles including: BMP, CMP, Electrolytes, Hepatic Function	<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	Preferred container for Inpatient Chem profiles including: BMP, CMP, Electrolytes, Hepatic Function	<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: Sodium Heparin LAVENDER strip: EDTA		