

BD Vacutainer® System










BD Diagnostics - Preanalytical Systems

Tube Guide including Order of Draw

Please display this in your clinical areas beside your venepuncture equipment

St Vincents University Hospital - PRINTED 05/08

Blood samples should be taken in the following order:

Catalogue Number	Colour Code	Tube Type	Determinations	Special Instructions
		Blood Culture	Aerobic followed by anaerobic - if insufficient blood for both culture bottles, use aerobic bottle only	
Draw Volume	 Light Blue	Sodium Citrate	Coagulation Testing, PT, INR, APTT, D-Dimer, etc	
Draw Volume	 Red	Serum	LDH, Ionised Ca, Drugs (Phenytoin, Theophylline, Methotrexate, Lithium), Vitamin D, Parathyroid Hormone, Osmolality, Bone Markers, Endocrine Testing (excluding Thyroid)	
Draw Volume	 Gold	SST™ II	TSH, FT4, T3, Cortisol, Digoxin, GH, ADNA, Gastrin, B12 Folate, Ferritin, PSA, CEA, AFP, HCG, CA125, CA19.9, CA15.3, Immunoglobulins (IgG, IgA, IgM, IgE), Electrophoresis, B2 Microglobulin, Caeruloplasmin, Infectious Mono, CRP, Thyroid Ab, Liver Ab, Rheumatology, Coeliac Ab	
Draw Volume	 Light Green	PST™ II	UE, LFT, Cardiac Enzymes, Ca, Mg, Phosphate, Uric Acid, Total Protein, Amylase, Lipids, Bone Profile, Troponin, Iron Status, ACE	Please fill tubes to capacity, otherwise samples may not be accepted by the laboratory
Draw Volume	 Lavender	EDTA	Full Blood Count (FBC) and ESR C3 / C4, Haemoglobin A1c, Homocysteine, ACTH	1 tube for FBC & ESR. Separate tubes for each of the other tests. Homocysteine (sent on ice & state time taken)
Draw Volume	 Pink	Cross Match	Blood Transfusion Samples	
Draw Volume	 Grey	Fluoride Oxalate	Glucose	Please mix 8-10 times
Draw Volume	 Royal Blue	Trace Element	Trace Elements	

*RECOMMENDED ORDER OF DRAW:

1. Blood culture bottles
2. COAGULATION Tubes
3. Tubes with NO ADDITIVES
4. OTHER Tubes with ADDITIVES

For further copies of this guide and questions regarding specific tests, please contact main Pathology Laboratory.

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*Clinical and Laboratory Standards Institute (Formerly NCCLS) Guidelines H3-A5 Vol 23 No. 32, 5th Edition
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Mixing Guidelines

All BD Vacutainer® tubes require immediate mixing following collection

Colour Code	Tube Type	Inversions
 Light Blue	Sodium Citrate	3-4 Times
 Black	Sodium Citrate ESR	8-10 Times
 Red	Serum	5-6 Times
 Gold	SST™ II	5-6 Times
 Green	Heparin & PST™ II	8-10 Times
 Lavender	EDTA	8-10 Times
 Pink	Cross Match	8-10 Times
 Grey	Fluoride Oxalate	8-10 Times
 Royal Blue	Trace Element	8-10 Times

Insufficient mixing can result in inaccurate test results and the need to re-draw