









## TUBE COLLECTION GUIDE

Tube	Additive	Laboratory Use	Tests
 <p><b>Light Blue</b></p>	Buffered sodium citrate 0.109 M (~3.2%) plastic Citrate, theophylline, adenosine, dipyridamole (CTAD)	For coagulation determinations. CTAD for selected platelet function assays and routine coagulation determination. Tube inversions prevent clotting.	Prothrombin Time (PROTIME), APTT and Fibrinogen may be drawn in the same blue top. Draw an extra blue top when D-Dimer is ordered.
 <p><b>Gold (SST)</b></p>	Clot activator and gel for serum separation	For serum determinations and diagnostic testing of serum for infectious disease. Tube inversions ensure mixing of clot activator with blood. Blood clotting time: 30 minutes.	The following tests require an additional SST CA-125, HOMOCYSTEINE, TROPONIN 1, PTH-(Intact), TESTOSTERONE, PROLACTIN and CORTISOL (AM and PM must be clearly labeled on SST label). Serology testing may be combined in a single SST but separate from the above: RPR, RHEUMATOID FACTOR, and HCG (Pregnancy). Hepatitis and HIV testing require a separate SST. LITHIUM must be drawn in a separate SST tube
 <p><b>Light Green</b></p>	Lithium Heparin Plasma Separator Tube	For plasma determinations in chemistry. May be used for routine blood screening Tube inversions prevent clotting.	The following Chemistry may be drawn in the same FULL green top: LYTES(ELECTROLYTES),BASIC METABOLIC PANEL(CHEM7 / CMP), COMPREHENSIVE METABOLIC PANEL (CHEM12 / CMP), HEPATIC (LIVER) PANEL, RENAL FUNCTION PANEL, LIPID PANEL (CHOLESTEROL, HDL, TRIGLYCERIDES), TSH, FT3, FT4, CEA, PSA, B12, FOLATE, FERRITIN, MAGNESIUM, PHOSPHORUS, GGT, AMYLASE, URIC ACID, IRON-UIBC-TIBC,CK, LDH, CARBAMAZEPINE, PHENYOIN(DILANTIN), DIGOXIN, VALPROIC ACID (DEPAKENE),THEOPHYLLINE, PRIMIDONE (MYOLINE), T3 UPTAKE, T4, LIPASE, PREALBUMIN, CK-MB, CRP (land hs), and VITAMIN D25 OH. The following must not be combined with any other tests and must be drawn on TIME: VANCOMYCIN (Peak/Trough), GENTAMICIN(Peak/Trough), TOBRAMYCIN (Peak/Trough), and AMIKACIN.
 <p><b>White</b></p>	K <sub>2</sub> EDTA with gel	For use in molecular diagnostic test methods (such as, but not limited to, polymerase chain reaction [PCR] and/or branched DNA [bdNA] amplication techniques).	Ammonia (NH <sub>3</sub> ) is <u>always</u> drawn in a white top tube (on ice). No additional tests may be drawn with these tubes.
 <p><b>Lavender</b></p>	Liquid K <sub>2</sub> EDTA Spray-coated K <sub>2</sub> EDTA (plastic)	K <sub>2</sub> EDTA and K <sub>3</sub> EDTA for whole blood hematology determinations. K <sub>2</sub> EDTA may be used for routine immunohematology testing and blood donor screening. Tube inversions prevent clotting.	The following tests may be drawn in the same Lavender (Purple) top tube: CBC, SED Rate (ESR), Reticulocyte. Draw an extra lavender for each Glycohemoglobin and BNP.
 <p><b>Gray</b></p>	Potassium oxalate/sodium fluoride Sodiumfluoride/Na <sub>2</sub> EDTA Sodium fluoride (serum tube)	For glucose determinations. Oxalate and EDTA anticoagulants will give plasma samples. Sodium fluoride is the antiglycolytic agent. Tube inversions ensure proper mixing of additive and blood.	Glucose is <u>always</u> drawn in a gray top tube. No additional tests may be drawn with this tube.

**The tubes above are documented in the proper Order of Draw for your convenience.**



**GUIDE FOR DRAWING TESTS IN ORDER OF DRAW**

1. PROTHROMBIN TIME (PROTIME), APTT and FIBRINOGEN may be drawn in the same **BLUE** top.  
Draw an extra **BLUE** top when D-DIMER is ordered.
2. The following tests require an additional **SST**:  
CA-125, HOMOCYSTEINE, TROPONIN 1, PTH-(intact), AFP, TESTOSTERONE, PROLACTIN and CORTISOL (AM and PM must be clearly labeled on **SST** label).
3. Serology testing may be combined in a single **SST** but separate from the above:  
RPR, RHEUMATOID FACTOR, and HCG (PREGNANCY) and RAPID HIV.
4. HEPATITIS and HIV testing require a separate **SST**.
5. LITHIUM must be drawn in a separate **SST** tube.
6. The following Chemistry test may be drawn in the same **FULL GREEN TOP (Plasma Separator Tube)**.  
LYTES (ELECTROLYTES), BASIC METABOLIC PANEL (CHEM7-BMP), COMPREHENSIVE METABOLIC PANEL (CHEM12-CMP), HEPATIC (LIVER) PANEL, RENAL FUNCTION PANEL, LIPID PANEL (CHOLESTEROL, HDL, TRIGLYCERIDES), TSH, FT3, FT4, CEA, PSA, B12, FOLATE, FERRITIN, MAGNESIUM, PHOSPHORUS, GGT, AMYLASE, URIC ACID, IRON-UIBC-TIBC, CK, LDH, CARBAMAZEPINE, PHENYTOIN (DILANTIN), DIGOXIN, VALPROIC ACID (DEPAKENE), THEOPHYLLINE, PRIMIDONE (MYSOLINE), T3 UPTAKE, T4, LIPASE, PREALBUMIN, CK-MB, CRP( I and hs) and Vitamin D 25 OH.
  - The following must not be combined with any other test and must be drawn on time:  
VANCOMYCIN –Peak or Trough, GENTAMICIN –Peak or Trough, TOBRAMYCIN –Peak or Trough and AMIKACIN.
7. AMMONIA (NH3) is always drawn in a **WHITE** top tube (on ice).  
No additional test may be drawn with this tube.
8. The following tests may be drawn in the same **LAVENDER (PURPLE)** top tube:  
CBC, SED RATE (ESR), RETICULOCYTE  
Draw an extra **LAVENDER** for each (GLYCOHEMOGLOBIN and BNP).
9. GLUCOSE is always drawn in a **GRAY** top tube.  
No additional test may be drawn with this tube.

**\*\*ALL SEND OUT TESTS REQUIRE THEIR OWN SEPARATE TUBE(S)\*\***