

Phlebotomy Guide

Order of Draw

1. Blood Culture

To prevent needles from being contaminated with bacteria from other tube stoppers

2. Citrate

To prevent carry-over of additives from other tubes

3. Serum

To prevent additives known to affect potassium from carrying over into this tube

4. Heparin

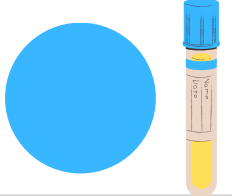
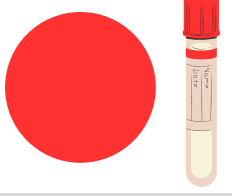
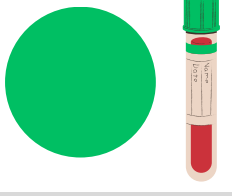
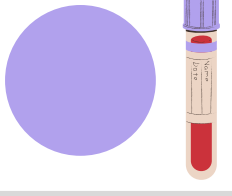
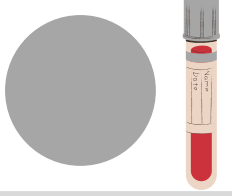
To prevent carry-over of additives from other tubes

5. Edta

To prevent EDTA from altering test results of other tubes

6. Oxalate

To prevent oxalate from altering test results of other tubes

Colour	Additive	Sample Type	Department	Use
Light Blue Top 	Sodium Citrate	Plasma	Coagulation	Coagulation tube for PT/PTT
Red Top 	None/Clot Activator or Gel Separator	Serum	Chemistry Serology	Serological test , eg.HIV
Green Top 	Lithium Heparin or Sodium Heparin	Plasma Whole Blood	Chemistry	Used for U/ E etc
Lavender Top 	EDTA	Whole Blood	Hematology	Full Blood Count etc
Grey Top 	Sodium Fluoride and Potassium Oxalate	Plasma Whole Blood	Chemistry	Glycolytic inhibitor use for GLUCOSE and LACTATE