

Blood Collection Tip Sheet

Collection of Blue Top Tubes

Order of draw:

1. Blood Cultures
2. Blue
3. Gold/Red
4. Green
5. Purple
6. Gray

Preventing Hemolysis

- Mix tubes with anticoagulant additives gently 5-10 times.
- Avoid drawing blood from a hematoma.
- Avoid drawing the plunger back too forcefully.
- Make sure venipuncture site is dry.
- Avoid probing.
- Avoid prolonged tourniquet application or fist clenching, tourniquets should not be on longer than one minute.

Preventing Clotting

- By gently inverting the tube 4-10 times, the blood will mix with anticoagulant additive and clotting should not occur.
- Delay transferring from a syringe into tubes
- Avoid using expired tubes.
- Avoid overfilling tubes (forcing blood with a syringe).

Patient Identification

- Verify patient's full name and date of birth; Compare patient's full name and date of birth with barcode label.
- If the patient is unresponsive, verify identification via armband.
- Samples must be labeled, and collected at the patient's bedside utilizing beaker collection process. They should NEVER leave the room unlabeled.
- Only send one patient's samples per specimen bag.

Blood Bank Specimens

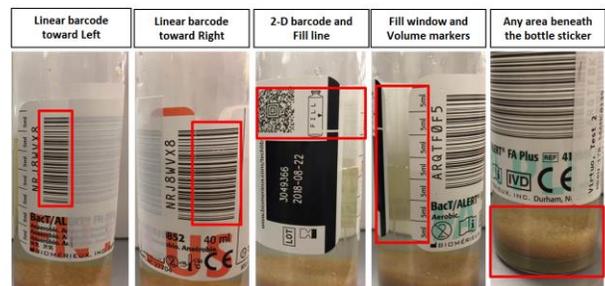
- Patient identity must be verified by two individuals, the transfusionist and a qualified witness.
- **DO NOT TRANSFUSE** if any discrepancies are found during this identification process and immediately return the product to the Blood Bank for resolution.
- Label prints at bedside and may require a legible signature (first and last name).
- Blood Bank tubes can NEVER be relabeled.

- When using a winged blood collection set for venipuncture and a blue (coagulation) tube is the first specimen to be drawn, a discard tube should be drawn first.
- The discard tubes is used to fill the blood collection's tubing "dead space."
- The discard tube does not need to be completely filled.
- The discard tube should be a blue top tube.

Blood Culture Collection

- Never cover the factory label, the analyzer reads this barcode to obtain the bottle type (aerobic or anaerobic).
- You MUST specify the collection site.
- Use the Monoject female transfer device adaptor when collecting samples.

- Apply a Beaker label to each blood culture bottle, taking care NOT TO COVER the areas shown below in RED, including:



Phlebotomy Rounds

- Orders with a priority of **ROUTINE** will be drawn +/- 2 hours of the collect time. (For example, an order for 1400 will be collected between 1200 and 1600).
- Orders with a priority of **TIMED** and **ASAP** will be drawn +/- 1 hour of the collect time. (For example, an order for 1500 will be collected between 1400 and 1600).

Miscellaneous

- Always mix tubes directly after collection, this will help mix anticoagulant with blood to prevent clotting.
- Inappropriate Sites for Venipuncture: Arm on side of mastectomy, Edematous areas, Hematomas, Arm in which blood is being transfused, Scarred areas, Arms with fistulas or vascular grafts and Sites above an IV cannula.