

Blood Collection tubes

Serum Separator Tube (SST): This grey and red speckled tube ("tiger top") is used primarily for Chemistry and Viral antibody testing. No anticoagulant is contained in the tube.

Red Top Tube (Plain Non-Barrier): This tube is used for certain Blood Bank testing which requires a patient's serum, primarily RPR testing. Chemistries and other drug levels may be drawn in red top tube. The tube contains no anticoagulant.

Lavender Top Tube: This tube is used to for Hematology (CBC, e.g.) and certain Chemistry and Blood Bank testing. The tube contains EDTA as an anticoagulant. Samples collected in lavender tubes may not be used for coagulation tests.

Light Blue Top Tube: This tube is used for coagulation testing. The tube contains buffered sodium citrate as an anticoagulant. It is critical to test accuracy that the tube be filled completely. Inadequate amounts of blood in the tube can yield erroneous test results.

Green Top Tube: This tube contains lithium heparin as an anticoagulant, and is used for certain hematology, chemistry and virology tests.

Light Green Top Tube (PST): This tube is used for serum HCGs and other routine chemistry tests. The tube contains lithium heparin as an anticoagulant.

Brown Top Tube: This tube is used for Cytogenetic testing and other routine chemistry tests. The tube contains sodium heparin as an anticoagulant. (note: TAN top is different from Brown, and has EDTA)

Black Top Tube (Vac-Tec): This tube is used for sed rates (ESR). The tube contains sodium citrate as the anticoagulant.

Grey Top Tube: This tube is primary used for glucose testing. It contains potassium oxalate with sodium fluoride as the anticoagulant.

Yellow Top Tube: This tube is used for certain reference tests requiring whole blood. It contains ACD (acid-citrate-dextrose) as the anticoagulant.

Navy Blue Top Tube (No additive): This tube is used for certain reference tests. It is "metal free" and contains no anticoagulant.

Navy Blue Tube Tube (EDTA): This tube is used for certain reference tests. It contains EDTA as the anticoagulant.