

Proper Tube Order When Collecting Blood

Vacutainer tubes should be filled in the following order according to NCCLS guidelines:

VACUTAINER and SYRINGE TECHNIQUES

1. **Blood Culture/Sterile Tubes**
2. **Blue** (Coagulation Tube- Sodium Citrate)
3. **Red** or **Yellow** (Serum Tube with or without Clot Activator, with or without Gel)
4. **Green** (Heparin Tube) **Light Green** (Heparin Tube with Gel Separator)
5. **Lavender/Purple** or **Pink** (EDTA)
6. **Grey** (Fluoride Tube)

NOTES:

Place tubes upright in a rack.

Do not remove stoppers. Allow the vacuum within the tube(s) to draw the correct volume of blood.