



TITLE: **LAB SPECIMEN COLLECTION INSTRUCTIONS – COAGULATION COLLECTIONS
(BLUE TOP TUBE)**

EFFECTIVE DATE: 06/26/19

PERFORMED BY: Resource for Specimen Collections

MANUAL: Specimen Collection Manual

FORMULATED BY: Lab Phlebotomy Supervisor

COAGULATION COLLECTIONS (BLUE TOP TUBES)

Draw full tube for all Coagulation Tests. Tube is full when the vacuum in tube ceases to allow blood to gently flow into the tube.

Have patient state name & DOB. Minimum of 2 appropriate identifiers must be used for patient ID & specimen label.

Special Coagulation Tests “hand-deliver” to Lab. DO NOT send through the tube station. If unsure, contact Hematology/Coagulation Dept in Lab₂ (see below examples)

- Plavix
- Platelet Function Test

If using Electronic identification device:

- Scan patient’s hospital armband, perform blood draw, & label tube with the printed label.
- Complete the collection process in the Computer System by scanning each labeled specimen tube. This is all done at bedside at time of draw.

If not using an electronic identification device:

- Have patient state name & DOB. Use Patient Chart Label / minimum of 2 appropriate identifiers when identifying the patient & labeling tube. Assure that the patient’s stated name & DOB matches the label and the hospital armband. Write date/time of draw & collector ID on the specimen label. This is all done at bedside at time of draw.

When using Vacutainer tube for venipuncture,

- Draw a waste tube first (small amount of blood into a plain/no additive tube (white or red top).
- Draw a blue top (sodium citrate) tube for blood draws. Note: For difficult draw patients (butterfly draws – see below) to help prevent tissue fluid contamination first draw a small amount of blood into a waste tube (plain/no additive tube – white or red top) before drawing blue top tube.
- Allow vacuum to fill tube until blood stops flowing.
- “Gently” invert tube (end over end) several (4) times. Do NOT shake/mix vigorously-this can cause hemolysis and platelet clumping.

When using Butterfly for venipuncture,

- **First, Draw a small amount of blood into a plain tube (waste tube – white or red top) to prevent short draws due to “dead air” space in the tubing of the Butterfly, (discard).**
- Draw a blue top (sodium citrate) tube and let fill via vacuum in tube, until blood stops flowing.
- “Gently” invert tube (end over end) 4 times

When using Syringe for venipuncture:

- Draw enough blood in syringe so that there is extra blood left in syringe after transfer of the blood from syringe to the tube
- Using appropriate transfer device, immediately transfer blood into blue top tube allowing blood to gently flow into tube. Do not force the blood into the tube, but allow the vacuum to fill the tube slowly.
- Gently invert tube (end over end) 4 times.

Line /VAD collections: (nurse procedures)

- Nurses will follow nursing established procedures.

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