

# Phlebotomy: Order of Draw

Evacuated tube collection and or fill from syringe



**Blood cultures:** aerobic  
and anaerobic

**Blue top:** sodium citrate

**Red plain or SST tubes**  
both contain a clot  
activator

**Green top:** lithium or  
sodium heparin

**Lavender & Pink top:**  
EDTA

**Grey top:** oxalate / fluoride

*\*Referenced CLSI*

## Reminder:

- Always gently mix tubes to ensure that additives are dispersed equally through the sample.
- Always fill tubes appropriately for proper additive to blood ratios
- Capillary collections have not changed: collect the lavender 1<sup>st</sup>