**Order of Draw for Evacuated Tube Blood Collection**

* Verify that you are using a tube with the correct additive. Tube top colors may vary between manufacturers.
* Do not use expired tubes or tubes that have dropped on the floor.
* GENTLY invert all tubes immediately after collection. DO NOT shake tubes.

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| **CONTAINER** | **ADDITIVE** | **Inversion** | **IMPORTANT INFORMATION** |
| Blood Culture  Vials | Culture Medium | 8-10 times | * Collect specimen in both vials (aerobic and anaerobic). Adult minimum volume is 10 mL for each bottle. * Must be drawn with winged collection device (using a discard tube) or a syringe (using a syringe transfer device). |
| 2.7 mL  (Light Blue)    1.8 ml  (Light Blue) | Sodium Citrate  3.2% | 3-4 times | * Draw 1-2 mL of blood in a light-blue-top discard tube before filling sample tube. * Sample tube MUST be filled to indicator line for valid test results. * Do NOT remove clots or send clotted specimens. * Do NOT add two partially filled tubes together. |
| Red (Serum) | Clot Activator (no gel) | 5 times | * Use for serum collections when Gel Barrier tubes should NOT be used |
| Gold with  Gel Barrier  (serum) | Clot Activator  Gel Serum  Separator | 5 times | * SST for serum determinations in Chemistry * Invert tubes to ensure proper mixing of clot activator. Clotting time 30 min. |
| Green  (Plasma)    Green w/Gel (Plasma) | Lithium Heparin  Lithium Heparin Sep (Gel)  Sodium Heparin | 8-10 times | * These tubes are NOT interchangeable. |
| Lavender  (Plasma/ whole blood) | EDTA K2 | 8-10 times | * Do NOT remove clots or send clotted specimens. |
| Pink (Plasma/ whole blood) | EDTA K2 | 8-10 times | * Do **NOT** draw for CBC * Do **NOT** remove clots or send clotted specimens |
| Gray  (Plasma) | Sodium Fluoride/ Potassium Oxalate | 8-10 times | * Routinely used for glucose testing * Do **NOT** remove clots or send clotted specimens |
| Yellow  (Whole blood) | ACD Solution | 8-10 times | * Solution A and Solution B tubes are interchangeable. * Do **NOT** remove clots or send clotted Specimens |

Note: These are some common tubes used in Medstar laboratories to perform testing. For special tubes not included in this list, please call lab.