

# Order of Filling Tubes

Order	Tube Color	Tests associated with the tube	Does it Clot?	Specimen Type
1	Blood Culture Bottles (Aerobic and Anaerobic)	Blood culture	No	Whole Blood
2	Blue MUST BE FULL	PT, PTT, D-Dimer	No	Citrated Plasma
3	Red	Waste or test requiring serum not from a gel tube. i.e. drug levels	Yes	Serum
4	Yellow	PSA, Hep C (HCVA), CEA	Yes	Serum
5	Mint	BMP, COMP, Cardiac Enzymes, BNP, most Chemistry tests	No	Heparin Plasma/Whole Blood
6	Pink	Crossmatch*, Type and Screen* *Orange Armband Required	No	EDTA Plasma/Whole Blood
7	Lavender/Purple	CBC, ESR, GLYHgb Ammonia - place on ice	No	EDTA Plasma/Whole Blood
8	Gray	Lactic acid	No	Oxalate Plasma

## DEPARTMENT OF LABORATORY

## PROPER LABELING OF SPECIMENS:

The following **MUST** be on **ALL** samples:

**Patient's full name**

**Time specimen collected**

**Date specimen collected**

**Patient's date of birth**

**Epic ID of person obtaining the sample**

Additionally

**Blood Bank** samples **MUST** have: **Orange armband number**

**Line** samples **MUST** be labeled as: **Line Draw**



**Labeling must be done at the bedside IMMEDIATELY by the person obtaining the sample.** Place all preprinted labels vertically over paper label on tube. Do not pre-label tubes or write on the bar code of preprinted labels. Circling the date of birth on pre-printed labels signifies that the date of birth was verified via the patient's armband, or if no armband is present, verified verbally.

### LINE DRAW DISCARD (Waste) VOLUMES FROM ADULT PATIENTS

Specimen Type or Line Type	Discard Volume
Most tests EXCEPT Coagulation tests, Blood cultures and draws from PICC lines*, noted below	7-10 ml
Coagulation tests from non-heparin line (not PICC)	7-10 ml
Coagulation tests from any line containing heparin	12 – 15 ml
Blood Culture, no specific site requested	Preferable to draw directly from a vein. If it can't be drawn from a vein, then 7 ml waste (10 ml from a PICC line*) is drawn and discarded prior to obtaining 20 ml for the blood culture.
Blood Culture, ordered drawn from a line	0 ml waste. Waste is included in total 20 ml drawn for the blood culture (10 ml for each bottle).
*PICC lines	10 ml for routine draws. EXCEPTION (as above): If line is heparinized and coagulation tests are ordered, then 12-15 ml waste is required.