

# Proper Tube Order When Collecting Blood

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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.**