















Tube Guide

In situations of multi-sampling, it is recommended to arrange the tubes in the following order:

Order of draw		
Requested tests	Tube	Volume
Sterile samples (e.g. Blood Cultures) The specimen must be collected using a sterile technique to reduce the chance of contamination	  	Green FA Plus (Aerobic bottle): Fill first 8 – 10ml Orange FN Plus (Anaerobic bottle): Fill second 8 – 10ml Yellow PF Plus (Paediatric aerobic bottle): To be used for children or when the expected blood volume drawn will be 4mls or less
Coagulation PT, APTT, INR, D-Dimer, Platelet Function Test, Specific Coagulation Studies (Protein C, S, AT III, Lupus anticoagulant)	 Sodium Citrate	2.7ml NOTE: Tube MUST be filled to specified volume.
Most Biochemistry, Immunology & Serology LFT, EUC, Cardiac Enzymes and/or markers (e.g. TROPONIN), Hormones, Lipids, Drug Levels (not Tricyclics or Perhexiline), General Serology (e.g. Hepatitis, HIV, EBV), Autoimmune, Allergy Screening	 SST	5.0ml NOTE: SST tubes contain an inert gel layer that enhances serum separation. Not Blood Bank (see 6ml EDTA below)
Biochemistry, Immunology & Serology can be performed from Plain Tube, however the SST Gel tube is the preferred option (See SST above)	 Plain	6.0ml
Perhexiline, Tricyclics, RBC Cholinesterase NOT TO BE USED for Lithium analysis	 Lithium Heparin	6.0ml
Lymphocyte Surface Markers	 Lithium Heparin 6.0ml +  EDTA 4.0ml	NOTE: Lymphocyte Surface Markers require an EDTA tube in addition to the Lithium Heparin tube.
Heavy Metals, Trace Metals E.g. Lead (Pb), Cadmium, Endosulfans, Aluminium Bromide Chromium, Mercury, Red cell Zinc / Erythrocyte Zinc	 Trace Element	6.0ml NOTE: Trace element tubes must be full draw volume.
Blood Bank Blood Group, Antibody Screen, Antibody Titres, Crossmatch, Group & Hold Direct Coombs test	 EDTA	6.0ml NOTE: All additional information on the back of the request form must be completed for Cross Matching and Group & Hold. All Details & Signature mandatory. Statutory Declaration is mandatory.
Haematology CBP, Hb, WCC, Diff, Platelets, ESR, Thalassaemia Studies/Haemoglobin Electrophoresis, Malarial Parasites Biochemistry Glycosylated Hb, (HbA1c), Red Cell Folate, Lead	 EDTA	4.0ml
Special Haemostasis - Molecular Testing Prothrombin gene mutation, FVL, MTHFR	 EDTA	4.0ml
Glucose, Alcohol	 Fluoride Oxalate	2.0ml

Specimen Labelling – Each tube must be legibly labelled with:

- Surname - Date of birth - Date - Collector's initials
 - First name - Gender (M or F) - Time - Barcode

NOTE: All BD Vacutainer® tubes require immediate mixing following collection.

HAZARD WARNING: Never inject blood into the tube from the needle and syringe.