

ORDER OF DRAW FOR MULTIPLE TUBE COLLECTIONS

Refer to the [MLabs Test Catalog](#) for specific specimen type and volume requirements for a particular test or tests.

For additional specimen collection guidelines see [MLabs Guidelines and Protocols](#) or [Clinical Microbiology and Virology Transport](#) documents. These documents can be found at <https://mlabs.umich.edu/resources/all-documents?tid=32>.

All specimens must be labeled with both the patient's first and last name as well as a second identifier such as the patient's birth date or medical record number matching the demographic information present on the accompanying requisition or other paperwork.

Order of Draw for Multiple Tube Collections




When collecting multiple specimens, blood tubes should be drawn in the following order; mix all tubes by inversion 6 – 8 times:

1. Blood Culture bottles (Aerobic & Anaerobic)
2. Myco/F Culture bottle
3. Isolator tube
4. Blue top (3.2% sodium citrate)
5. Red top (no preservative) and Gold top (SST) (serum)
6. Royal blue top (trace element) (no preservative) (serum)
7. Green top (sodium heparin) and Light Green top (PST) (lithium heparin)
8. Lavender top (EDTA), Pink top (EDTA), and Royal blue top (trace element) (EDTA) (plasma)
9. Gray top (sodium fluoride)
10. Yellow top (ACD) Solution A or B
11. TB Gold QuantiFeron (QFTB): Nil (gray top), TB1 (green top), TB2 (yellow top) and Mitogen (purple top) tubes






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Tube Descriptions

<p>Group 1 – Blood Culture</p> <p>Blood Culture: BD BACTEC bottles (blue & purple caps) containing liquid broth or detergent to be used as a set, or individually (blue cap) for aerobic-only cultures.</p>	
<p>Group 2 – Myco/F Blood Culture</p> <p>Blood Culture: BD BACTEC Myco/F Lytic bottle (red cap) containing nonselective culture medium to be used as an adjunct to aerobic blood culture media for the recovery of mycobacteria, yeast and fungi from blood. This medium may also be used for the culture of sterile body fluids when yeast or fungi are suspected.</p>	
<p>Group 3 – Isolator tube</p> <p>Isolator tube: 10 mL (adult) or 1.5 mL (pediatric) glass tube with yellow and black stopper containing liquid. Used for mycobacteria, fungus, or AFB blood cultures.</p>	
<p>Group 4 – Blue top with Sodium Citrate</p> <p>Blue top tube with 3.2% sodium citrate: used for coagulation testing and other plasma or whole blood determinations. If only a coagulation specimen is being drawn, draw 1-2 mL into a red top no additive tube, discard, and then collect the specimen.</p>	
<p>Group 5 – Red top and SST</p> <p>Serum tubes: include Red top tubes (no preservative) with clot activator and SST (gold top) gel separator tubes with clot activator. Used for serum determinations including chemistry testing, serology, and therapeutic drug monitoring.</p>	



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<p>Group 6 – Royal blue top tube with No Preservative</p> <p>Royal blue top tube (no preservative) with clot activator: used for trace metal serum determinations.</p> <p>CAUTION: Royal Blue top for metals testing is available either with no preservative for serum testing or with EDTA for plasma or whole blood testing. Please use care in selecting the appropriate tube for the testing requested.</p>	
<p>Group 7 – Green top with Heparin and PST</p> <p>Plasma tubes: include Green top tube or PST (light green top) gel separator tubes with sodium or lithium heparin. Used for plasma or whole blood determinations.</p>	
<p>Group 8 – EDTA tubes</p> <p>EDTA plasma tubes: includes Lavender top, Pink top (used for blood bank testing), Tan top (used for lead testing), and Royal Blue top with EDTA (used for trace metal whole blood or plasma determinations).</p> <p>CAUTION: Royal Blue top for metals testing is available either with no preservative for serum testing or with EDTA for plasma or whole blood testing. Please use care in selecting the appropriate tube for the testing requested</p>	
<p>Group 9 – Gray top with Sodium Fluoride</p> <p>Gray top tube with potassium oxalate/sodium fluoride: used for lactic acid testing and other plasma or whole blood determinations.</p>	
<p>Group 10 – Yellow top with ACD Solution A or B</p> <p>Yellow top tube with ACD (acid citrate dextrose) Solution A or B: used for whole blood determinations including flow cytometry and tissue typing (HLA) assays.</p>	



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Group 11 – TB Gold QuantiFERON

Nil (gray top), TB1 (green top), TB2 Antigen (yellow top) and Mitogen (purple top) tubes:
used for TB Gold, QuantiFERON test (QFTB).

