

Order of Draw Tube Guide for Thames and Taumarunui Hospitals

Label at bedside: Laboratory request form and samples must match the patient

| Tube colour | Tube name | Common usage For other tests refer to the Waikato Hospital laboratory online manual or contact the laboratory | Instructions |
|--|--------------------------------------|--|---|
|  | | COLLECT BLOOD CULTURES FIRST | |
|  | SODIUM CITRATE (Glass) | Coagulation. Special coag tests may require other tube types. Refer to Waikato Hospital lab online manual | Mix tube by gentle inversion 3-4 times. |
|  | CPDA (Plastic) | Tissue typing | Phone Blood Bank for tube. Mix tube by gentle inversion 8-10 times. |
|  | GOLD SST (Serum Separator) (Plastic) | Troponin T, Routine Biochemistry, Routine Endocrinology, Viral serology, Immunology, Lithium, Protein Electrophoresis, Tumour Markers | Mix tube by gentle inversion 5 times. |
|  | RED | Clozapine and other routine drugs | Mix tube by gentle inversion 5 times. |
|  | HEPARIN (Plastic) | RBC Porphyrins, Carboxyhaemoglobin, Methaemoglobin, Thiamine Chromosome studies (MUST be separate tube) | Mix tube by gentle inversion 8-10 times. |
|  | EDTA (Plastic) | Blood counts, Reticulocytes, CD4, Direct Coombs, ACTH, PRA, Ammonia, Lead, HbA1c, Homocysteine, Cyclosporin, FK506. Haemoglobinopathy Studies Complement Activation RNA and DNA studies (MUST be separate tube) | <i>Homocysteine, ACTH and Ammonia must be transported on ice, and the lab notified.</i> Mix tube by gentle inversion 8-10 times. |
|  | EDTA TRACE ELEMENT (Plastic) | Heavy Metals – Zinc, Copper, Aluminium, Manganese and Selenium | Ring lab to obtain tube. Mix tube by gentle inversion 8-10 times. |
|  | EDTA White | Viral loads – Hep B, Hep C, HIV | Mix tube by gentle inversion 8-10 times. |
|  | EDTA CROSS-MATCH (Plastic) | 7 ml EDTA tube for Cross match Tube label MUST be hand-written and signed | Mix tube by gentle inversion 8-10 times. |
|  | ESR | ESR | Mix tube by gentle inversion 8-10 times. Ensure the blood runs the length of the tube with each inversion. |
|  | Blood gas syringe (Heparin) | Blood gases, co-oximetry | Remove air immediately after collection. Mix by inversion several times |
|  | QuantiFERON Gold | QuantiFERON TB Gold | Tubes available from Phlebotomists. 1 ml only (volume is critical) into each of the tubes in sequence: grey, green, yellow, purple. Tubes draw slowly. Invert 10 times, ensure tube surface is coated. Transport at room temperature. |