



Specimen Collection March 2014



For additional specimen collection questions, contact MUSC Lab Client Services at 843-792-0707

E-Swab Collection Kit (Regular and Minitip)

The E-Swab kit is the preferred container for collection of specimens for routine bacterial culture.

This collection device can be used for wounds, abscesses, nares, throat or other specimens collected by a swab. It is used for transport of aerobic and anaerobic cultures.

Collect specimen with swab according to protocol. Insert into e-swab tube, break off swab at scored mark and recap. Label with barcode running lengthwise and send to Microbiology – Tube Station 88.



Urine Collection for Culture

- The additive in the gray urine culture tube helps to preserve and protect the level of bacteria present at collection. **This tube is for urine culture only.**
- Collect specimen following nursing guidelines for either clean catch or catheterized specimen in sterile container (cup). Transfer urine from the cup to the grey top tube using the straw device included in the kit.
- **Fill to line on tube. Minimum fill 3.0 mL.**
- **For specimens <3.0 ml (Peds or Adult), hand deliver in a sterile container on ice to Microbiology. Avoid tubing sterile containers of urine or fluid.**
- Label with barcode running lengthwise and send to Microbiology – Tube Station 88.



Universal Transport Media

- The Universal Viral Transport kit is used to collect and transport specimens for Viral, Chlamydia, Mycoplasma and Ureaplasma testing. It contains a regular size swab, a flexible minitip swab and viral media.
- Collect specimen, place swab in pink transport media, break the shaft at the score line and recap. Label tube with the barcode label running lengthwise down the tube.
- Send to the lab on ice or with cold packs.



Sexually Transmitted Disease Collection

for GC, Chlamydia and Trichomonas vaginalis
by Nucleic Acid Amplification testing

The Aptima Unisex swab kit (white label) is used for endocervical and male urethral samples. Collect specimen according to collection kit instructions. Place swab in transport media, break the shaft at the score line, recap and label tube with barcode running lengthwise down the tube.

The Aptima Urine kit (yellow label) is used for urine using a “dirty catch” specimen. Fill with urine to the indicated line, recap and label tube with barcode running lengthwise down the tube.

For endocervical
and male urethral
specimens →



← For Urine
specimens



Blood Culture Collection Bottles



- Routine set
Aerobic & Anaerobic



Containing Antimicrobial
removing agents
Aerobic & Anaerobic



Pediatric Aerobic
with Antimicrobial
agents

Stool Collection Systems



Clean empty
vial



Cary- Blair transport
for routine stool culture



SAF (sodium acetate formalin)
for Parasitology (O&P)

Culturette Swabs

- Used for the collection of specimens limited to Throat Strep Screens



Various other collection devices acceptable for microbiology specimens. Tube to microbiology at Tube station 88. Avoid tubing irretrievable specimens such as CSF, Sterile Fluids and tissues.



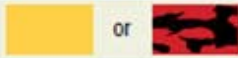



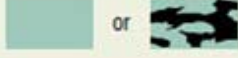


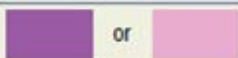


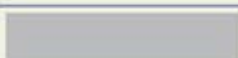


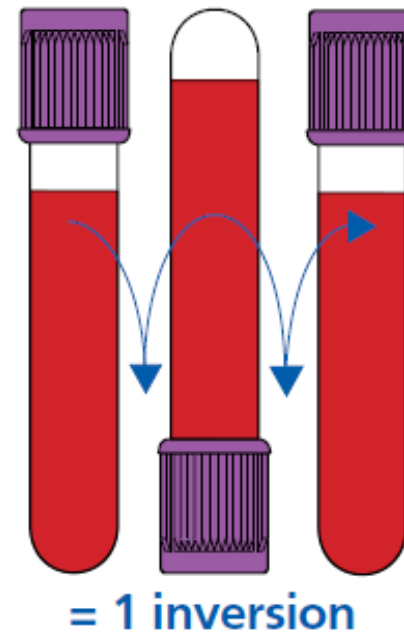
Order of Draw for Multiple Tube Collections

BD Vacutainer® Order of Draw for Multiple Tube Collections

Designed for Your Safety

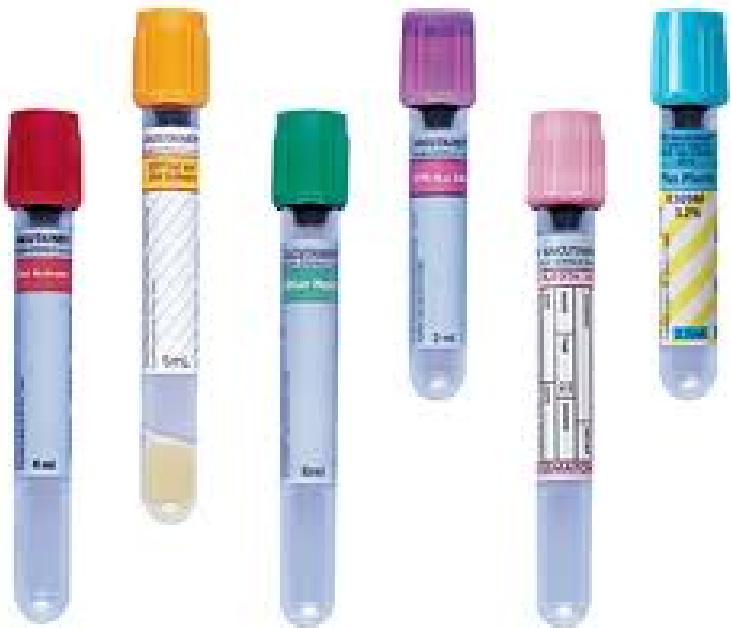
Reflects change in CLSI recommended Order of Draw (H3-A5, Vol 23, No 32, 8.10.2)

Closure Color	Collection Tube	Mix by Inverting
BD Vacutainer® Blood Collection Tubes (glass or plastic)		
	• Blood Cultures - SPS	8 to 10 times
	• Citrate Tube*	3 to 4 times
 or 	• BD Vacutainer® SST™ Gel Separator Tube	5 times
	• Serum Tube (glass or plastic)	5 times (plastic) none (glass)
	• BD Vacutainer® Rapid Serum Tube (RST)	5 to 6 times
 or 	• BD Vacutainer® PST™ Gel Separator Tube With Heparin	8 to 10 times
	• Heparin Tube	8 to 10 times
 or 	• EDTA Tube	8 to 10 times
	• BD Vacutainer® PPT™ Separator Tube K ₂ EDTA with Gel	8 to 10 times
	• Fluoride (glucose) Tube	8 to 10 times



Preparing commonly used blood tubes for Quality Samples

(Note: All samples should drawn to the indicated fill line)



- Red Top –gently invert 5 times
- SST (gold)- gently invert 5 times to reduce hemolysis and fibrin strands.
- Li. Heparin (light green) - gently invert 8 times immediately after collection to reduce hemolysis and fibrin strands
- EDTA (lavender)- gently invert 8 times
 - dark purple (4.0 ml)
 - light purple (2.0 ml)
 - (fills more slowly than full draw due to lower volume)
- EDTA (pink for Blood Bank)- gently invert 8-10 times
- Blue (citrate)- gently invert 3-4 times
- Grey (fluoride) – gently mix 8 times

Blood collection FYI's

- Only collect and send blood samples with physician orders. Do not send extra tubes/samples.
- Ensure 2 identifiers are documented on blood samples prior to sending to the lab.
- Ensure all orders are properly documented and collected in EPIC prior to sending to the lab.
- Ensure samples are filled to the indicated fill line on the vacutainers. Utilize the vacuum system- refrain from opening tops to fill. Underfilled or overfilled vacutainers cause erroneous results.

