



Skin Puncture Order of Collection

Blood collection tubes must be filled in a specific order to minimize contamination of sterile specimens and avoid possible test result error due to cross contamination from tube additives.

Refer to the [APL Test Directory](#) for specific information on the collection and handling of each laboratory test.

Use the same order for transferring syringe collected blood into microcollection tubes. For venipuncture and evacuated tubes, refer to *PA03-005 Order of Draw and Order of Transfer*.

Order	Tube or Container	Invert
	Capillary tube blood gas	Not applicable
	NMS card 	Not applicable
	EDTA microcollection tube 	10 times
	Other additive tubes: Heparin microcollection tubes, including those with gel Sodium fluoride EDTA microcollection tubes 	10 times
	Serum microcollection tubes, including those with clot activators and gel 	10 times

REFERENCES

1. CLSI. *Procedures and Devices for the Collection of Diagnostic Capillary Blood Specimens*; Approved Standard – 6th Edition. NCCLS document GP42-A6. Wayne, Pennsylvania: CLSI, 2008.
2. Becton, Dickinson and Company. *BD Microtainer Chemistry Tubes Non-sterile*. Package Insert. 8363931. 03/2011.

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