Sample Collection.

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Q. Order of draw: who, what, ~~when~~, ~~where~~, why

→ Who determines order of draw?

CLSI guideline H3-A6 → procedure for collection of diagnostic blood specimen by venipuncture

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Healthcare facilities should be following recommended guideline of draw.

→ What is order of draw?

order of draw is used for both (1) glass and plastic collection tubes

(2) Collection using syringe or evacuated tubes (collection tube and tube holder system)

It follows the order of sample collected in following

(1) Blood culture tube
(2) Coagulation tube (citrate)
(3) Serum tube c/c out clot activator, c/c out gel
(4) Heparin tube c/c out gel plasma separator
(5) EDTA tube c/c out gel separator
(6) glycolytic inhibitor (fluoride).

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Order	Tube	Stopper	Inversions	Additive
(1)	Blood culture (sterile specimen)	Blood culture bottles : yellow	8	Sodium polyanethol sulfonate (SPS)
(2)	Coagulation tubes (citrate)	light blue	3-4	citrate ~~thrombin~~
(3)	Serum tube (clot activator ±)	Red / black yellow	5	-ve charge of silicon-coated thrombin
(4)	Heparin tube (c̄ / c̄out gel sep) (AB??)	green / light green	8	heparin
(5)	EDTA (plasma separator) (hematological profile)	lavendar	8	K_2 K_3 EDTA
(6)	glycolytic inhibitor (fluoride)	gray	8	fluoride
(7)	ACD solution tube	yellow		

⟹ Why it is important:-

i. prevent possible test result errors due to cross contamination by tube additives

(1) Fluoride in gray tubes distort microscopic app. of cells so, ~~lavender~~ EDTA collected before fluoride

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(2). potassium in EDTA vaccules (K_2 / K_3 EDTA) falsely elevates potassium test results so SST must be collected before EDTA and fluoride vaccules.

(3) Clot activators do interfere in coagulation test such as PT, APTT

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Should be collected after coagulation tube (Citrate tube)

(4) Bacteria from non sterile tubes / stopper can contaminate sterile tubes for blood culture.

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Blood culture tubes should be collected first.