

Blood Bank Testing-Updated Specimen Tube Type

Date: June 15th, 2022

Effective Date: June 14th, 2022

UPDATE: During the transition to pink top tubes for blood bank testing, if pink tubes are not yet available in your area, please continue to draw a lavender and place the PNK label on the tube. Additionally, label the red top tube with a patient label from the chart when a T&S is ordered.

The Blood Bank is moving into the 21st century with the implementation of automated testing. In advance of this change, Blood Bank testing is converting vacutainer types. One 6ml pink top tube (EDTA) will replace the currently drawn 4ml red top and 4ml lavender top tubes.

Refer to the Test Index for specific test requirements. Summary of changes are below:

- ABORh Type and Antibody Screen (T&S) testing will require one **full** 6ml pink top vacutainer (EDTA).
- Both pink and lavender microtainer tubes are acceptable for pediatric patients.
- EDTA anticoagulant is present in both pink and lavender top tubes.
- This change does **not** affect cord blood samples, they will continue to be collected in red and lavender top tubes.

If you have questions please contact Debra Masel, Chief Supervisor for Blood Bank and Transfusion Services at Strong Memorial Hospital at debra_masel@URMC.rochester.edu

From: Neil Blumberg, MD
Director, Transfusion Medicine Unit and Blood Bank
Professor, Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine
University of Rochester Medical Center
(585)275-3189
Neil_Blumberg@urmc.rochester.edu