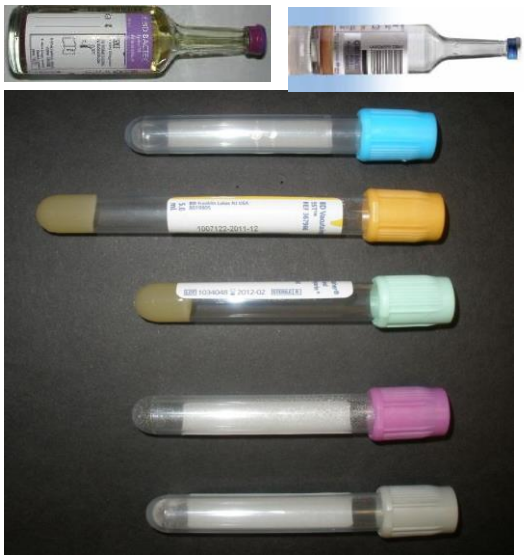
Order of Draw

The most current Clinical and Laboratory Standards Institute (CLSI) guidelines recommends a single "Order of Draw", whether using a multisample, evacuated tube system or drawing with a syringe(s). The "Order of Draw" is designed to eliminate the possibility of cross contamination that may result in erroneous results. It is based on CLSI Procedures for Collection of Diagnostic Blood Specimens by Venipuncture; Approved Standard Sixth Edition, October 2007. It appears that the only exception to this rule is in drawing micro-containers from finger or heel punctures.

- **Order of Draw (Syringe or Evacuated Tube Method):**
  - Blood Culture tubes
  - Coagulation tubes (lt. blue)
  - Serum tube with or without clot activator and with or without gel
  - Additive tubes
    - Heparin (green) with or without plasma separator
    - EDTA (lavender) with or without plasma separator
    - Oxalate/fluoride (gray)

If a blue top (citrate) is the only tube being drawn a discard tube is necessary when using a butterfly. The discard tube is drawn to eliminate the dead space (air) in the line of the butterfly which may act to reduce the volume of blood drawn, thereby resulting in an under-filled tube.

Closure Color	Collection Tube
BD Vacutainer® Blood Collection Tubes *(glass or plastic)*	
	• Blood Cultures - SPS
	• Citrate Tube*
or	• BD Vacutainer® SST™ Gel Separator Tube • Serum Tube *(glass or plastic)*
	• Heparin Tube
or	• BD Vacutainer® PST™ Gel Separator Tube With Heparin
or	• EDTA Tube
	• Fluoride (glucose) Tube



**Pearl – ACD- Yellow tubes collected after EDTA

- **Microtainer Order of Draw:**
  Because blood from a finger or heel puncture will begin clotting the time factor must be considered when considering the order of draw. The order of draw is based on CLSI Procedures and Devices for the Collection of Capillary Blood Specimens; Approved Standard - Sixth Edition, September 2008. This standard recommends that EDTA tubes be drawn first to ensure good quality specimen, followed by other additive tubes and finally, serum specimen tubes.