

Specimen Collection Guide

Blood specimens should be obtained after an **overnight fast or at minimum, 8 hours after a regular, solid meal**. Specimens should be collected in **recommended color-coded tubes**. A pre-measured vacuum will fill the tube to the correct volume. Please **fill each tube completely** to avoid hemolysis of red blood cells and to ensure the proper ratio of blood to any additives that are contained in certain tubes. The following are general, strongly recommended steps for the collection and preservation of the specimen.



Serum Test(s)

(TIGER TOP or SST)
Centrifuge within 2 Hours
Refrigerate within 4 Hours



Troponin I

(SODIUM HEPARIN - PLASMA)
Centrifuge within 2 Hours, and aliquot plasma
Refrigerate aliquoted plasma within 4 Hours



BNP

(EDTA - PLASMA)
Centrifuge within 2 Hours, and aliquot plasma
Refrigerate aliquoted plasma within 4 Hours

Serum Separator Tube (SST or Tiger Top)

- ✓ These tubes contain a special gel that separates blood cells from serum, as well as particles to cause blood to clot quickly (clot activator).
- ✓ To ensure result accuracy, after 30 minutes of clot time is allowed and within 2 hours of collection, you must centrifuge tubes.
- ✓ Used for **all panels and all other tests except Troponin I, Hb A1c and BNP**.

Green Top Tube (Heparin)

- ✓ This tube contains sodium heparin or lithium heparin and is used for collection of heparinized plasma or whole blood.
- ✓ Used for **Troponin I**.

Lavender Top Tube (EDTA)

- ✓ This tube contains EDTA as an anticoagulant.
- ✓ Used for the collection of **Hb A1c** (whole blood EDTA) and **BNP** (EDTA plasma).



blood culture



citrate



serum



heparin



EDTA



oxalate

Order of Draw

For Multiple Tube Collections

1

2

3

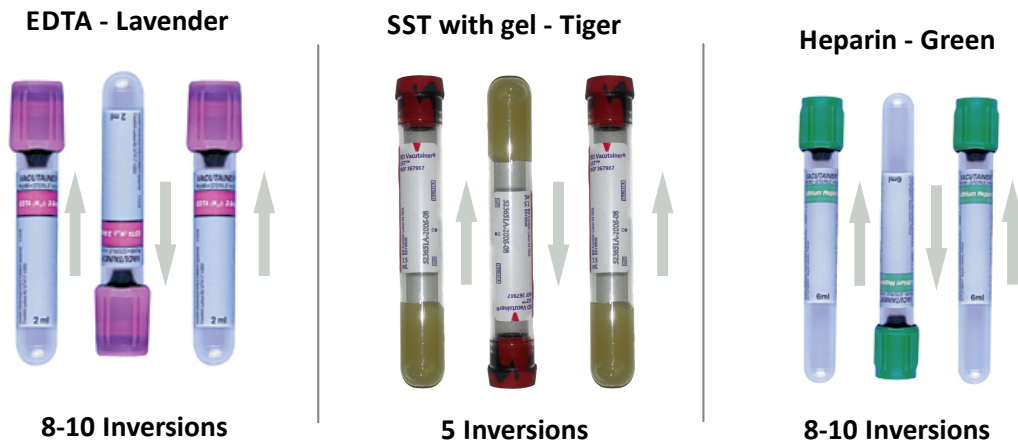
4

5

6

(Refer to the Aviir Directory of Service 2011 for more detailed information.)

Post-Draw Inversions



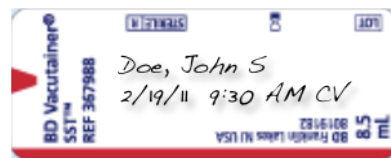
All specimens submitted to AVIIR, INC for testing must be appropriately labeled. This requirement assures positive identification and optimum integrity of patient specimens from the time of collection until testing is completed and results reported. Improper specimen labeling will result in test cancellations.

Collection Tube Label Requirements

- Last name, First name
- Date of collection
- Time of collection
- Phlebotomist initials

1

Collection Tube



Requisition Label

- Apply barcode label from requisition.
- **DO NOT** cover hand written name.

2

Requisition Label



(Refer to the Avir Test Directory for more detailed information.)