## **Laboratory Test Tube Color Guide**

Common lab tests sorted alphabetically

| Laboratory Test  | Tube Color  |
|--|---|
| ABG  | Heparin Syringe – ON ICE; send immediately to Lab   |
| Ammonia  | Lavender – ON ICE; invert 4-5 times to ensure proper mixing of additives  |
| Amylase  | Green – invert 4-5 times to ensure proper mixing of additives   |
| Anti-XA  | Blue – invert 4-5 times to ensure proper mixing of additives  |
| APTT   | Blue – invert 4-5 times to ensure proper mixing of additives  |
| BMP (Basic Metabolic Panel)<br>Includes: Na, K, Cl, CO2, Gluc, BUN, Creat  | Green – invert 4-5 times to ensure proper mixing of additives   |
| Bilirubin  | Green – invert 4-5 times to ensure proper mixing of additives   |
| Blood Cultures   | Kit from Lab (call x3334)   |
| Blood Bank: Type & Screen  | Pink x 2 – Blood Bank arm band on patient, include BB# on tube;   |
| (ABO/Rh, Antibody Screen)  | invert 4-5 times to ensure proper mixing of additives   |
| Caffeine   | Gold – invert 4-5 times to ensure proper mixing of additives  |
| CBC (Complete Blood Count)   | Lavender – invert 4-5 times to ensure proper mixing of additives  |
| СКМВ   | Green – invert 4-5 times to ensure proper mixing of additives   |
| CMP (Complete Metabolic Panel) Includes: Na, K, CL, Gluc, BUN, Creat, T. Bili, Alk Phos, Albumin, Total Protein, SGOT, Ca  | Green – invert 4-5 times to ensure proper mixing of additives   |
| СРК  | Green – invert 4-5 times to ensure proper mixing of additives   |
| Fibrinogen   | Blue – invert 4-5 times to ensure proper mixing of additives  |
| Folate   | Gold – invert 4-5 times to ensure proper mixing of additives  |
| H&H (Hemoglobin & Hematocrit)  | Lavender – invert 4-5 times to ensure proper mixing of additives  |
| Hemoglobin A1C   | Lavender – invert 4-5 times to ensure proper mixing of additives  |
| HFP (Hepatic Function Panel)   | Green – invert 4-5 times to ensure proper mixing of additives   |
| Includes: SGOT, SGPT, Alk Phos, Total Bili, Dir. Bili  |   |
| Hepatitis Panel (Acute)  | Gold – invert 4-5 times to ensure proper mixing of additives  Green – ON ICE; invert 4-5 times to ensure proper mixing of |
| Homocysteine   | additives   |
| Ionized Calcium  | Heparin Syringe – ON ICE; send immediately to Lab.  |
| Ionized Calcium- OUT PATIENTS ONLY   | Unopened Gold-invert 4-5 times to ensure proper mixing of additives   |
| Lactate  | ABG Syringe or No Gel Green – <b>ON ICE</b> ; invert 4-5 times to   |
| The second secon | ensure proper mixing of additives ; send immediately to Lab   |
| Lipase   | Green – invert 4-5 times to ensure proper mixing of additives   |
| Lipid Panel Includes: Trig, Chol, HDL, Calc LDL  | Green – invert 4-5 times to ensure proper mixing of additives   |
| Lithium  | Gold – invert 4-5 times to ensure proper mixing of additives  |
| Lyme Antibody Screen   | Gold – invert 4-5 times to ensure proper mixing of additives  |
| Magnesium (Mg)   | Green – invert 4-5 times to ensure proper mixing of additives   |
| Phosphorus (Phos)  | Green – invert 4-5 times to ensure proper mixing of additives   |
| Mono Screen  | Gold – invert 4-5 times to ensure proper mixing of additives  |
| Mumps Antibody Screen  | Gold – invert 4-5 times to ensure proper mixing of additives  |
| Pre-Albumin  | Gold – invert 4-5 times to ensure proper mixing of additives  |
| Pro-BNP  | Green – invert 4-5 times to ensure proper mixing of additives   |
| Procalcitonin  | Green – invert 4-5 times to ensure proper mixing of additives   |
| PT (Protime/INR)   | Blue – invert 4-5 times to ensure proper mixing of additives  |
| PTH (Parathyroid Hormone)  | Pearl– invert 4-5 times to ensure proper mixing of additives  |
| RFP (Renal Function Panel) Includes: BMP plus Ca, Phos & Albumin   | Green – invert 4-5 times to ensure proper mixing of additives   |
| Rubella/Rubeola (Measles) Antibody Screen  | Gold – invert 4-5 times to ensure proper mixing of additives  |
| Sedimentation Rate (WSR/ESR)   | Lavender – invert 4-5 times to ensure proper mixing of additives  |
| Tobramycin / Vancomycin / Gentamicin   | Green – invert 4-5 times to ensure proper mixing of additives   |
| Troponin   | Green – invert 4-5 times to ensure proper mixing of additives   |
| TSH (Thyroid Stimulating Hormone)  | Green – invert 4-5 times to ensure proper mixing of additives   |
| T4 Free  | Green – invert 4-5 times to ensure proper mixing of additives   |
| Varicella Zoster Antibody Screen   | Gold – invert 4-5 times to ensure proper mixing of additives  |
| Vitamin B12  | Gold – invert 4-5 times to ensure proper mixing of additives  |



Correct order for drawing tubes: Blue, Gold or Red, Green. Lavender or Pink

Note: One inversion is upending the tube 180 degrees, then returning it upright.

For questions or for tests not listed, please call the Laboratory at 815-3334