

Some things to realize so the sample won't hemolyze*

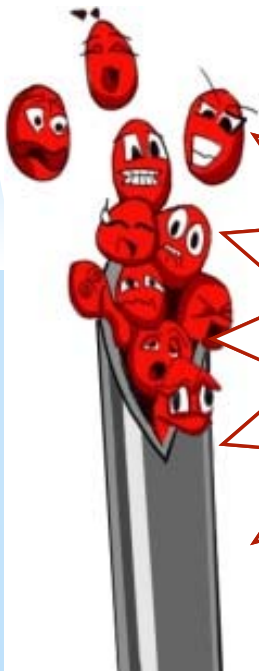
After sample is drawn, transfer blood to tubes immediately. "Linger not or it will clot"



Don't Pop Me!

When drawing blood with a syringe, pull back slowly on plunger. Never force flow when transferring blood into a tube. "Watch the flow, take it slow"

Avoid use of small gauge needles and multiple connections. "Needle size can hemolyze"



* Hemolysis is the rupture of red blood cells during sample collection

How to Collect the Perfect Specimen

Send samples in tube system with padding

"Make it safe to lab, add a pad"

For faster results draw 10 ml instead of 5 ml

"Lab will be thrilled if tubes are filled"

For accurate results, don't lay syringe down after drawing

"Don't let blood settle. CBC will be meddled"

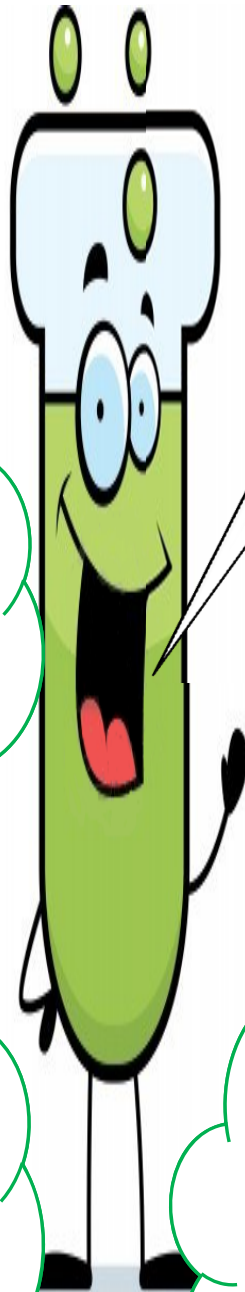
Fill me up!

Draw from HUB not from tubing with secure connection

"Don't Flub, draw from the HUB"

After transfer to tubes, slowly invert tubes 5 times

"Be swell, mix it well"



Worst Dressed Tubes



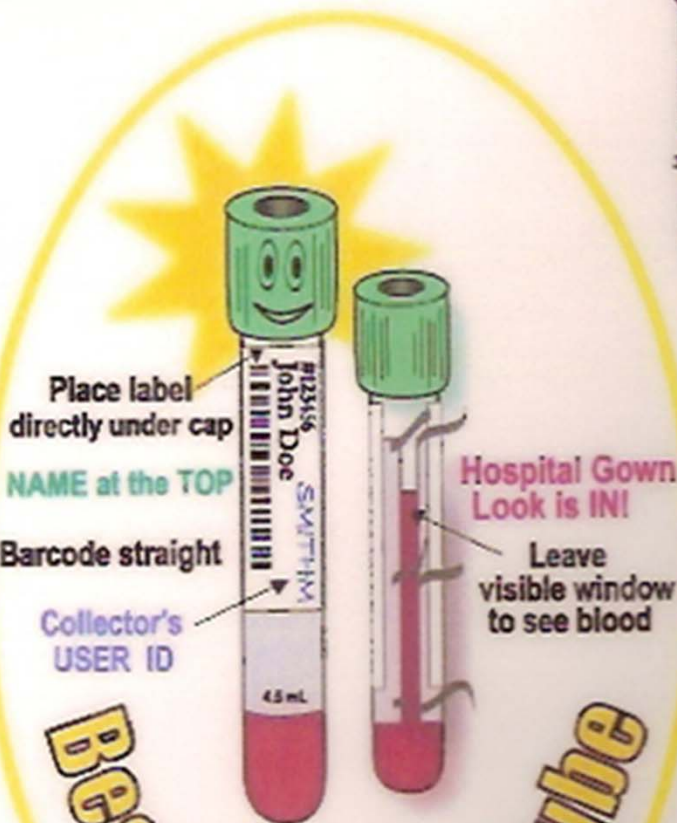
Wrinkled



Turtleneck



The Wrap Around



Best Dressed Tube



Flying Ace Scarf



Topsy Turvy Label



Cinched Belt












Twisted Shirt



Get it Straight Reduce the Wait

Order of Draw for Multiple Tube Collections

Reflects change in NCCLS recommended Order of Draw (NCCLS H3-A5, Vol 23, No 32, 8.10.2)

Closure Color	Collection Tube	Mix by Inverting
BD Vacutainer® Blood Collection Tubes (glass or plastic)		
	• Blood Cultures - SPS	8 to 10 times
	• Citrate Tube*	3 to 4 times
 or 	• BD Vacutainer® SST™ Gel Separator Tube	5 times
	• Serum Tube (glass or plastic)	5 times (plastic) none (glass)
	• Heparin Tube	8 to 10 times
 or 	• BD Vacutainer® PST™ Gel Separator Tube With Heparin	8 to 10 times
 or 	• EDTA Tube	8 to 10 times
	• Fluoride (glucose) Tube	8 to 10 times

*When using a winged blood collection set for venipuncture and a coagulation (citrate) tube is the first specimen tube to be drawn, a discard tube should be drawn first. The discard tube must be used to fill the blood collection set tubing's "dead space" with blood but the discard tube does not need to be completely filled. This important step will ensure maintenance of the proper blood-to-additive ratio of the blood specimen. The discard tube should be a nonadditive or coagulation tube.

NOTE: Always follow your facility's protocol for order of draw