

# Blood Samples

## Blood Collection Tube Top Colors for Serology Testing

Please supply **two 10mL red or tiger top tubes** for testing.

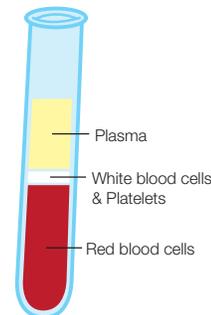
Need 2mLs of plasma/serum to run testing at an absolute minimum. Not to be confused with whole blood in the tube. It is what is separated off after the tube is spun down.

Draw time to test time must be <5days unless you have BOTH serum and EDTA plasma (<7 days).

Always collect as many tube types as possible. If there is only 1mL of EDTA plasma or serum, we can supplement with 1mL of light blue, green or yellow to equal the 2mLs needed for testing.

Post Mortem blood samples must ALWAYS have serum (Red Top, SST/Tiger top, Gold top ONLY).

Blood must be obtained from a vessel, no cavity blood is acceptable for testing.



### MUST HAVE one of these tube types:

	<b>Red &amp; Tiger (aka Speckle) Serum/no additive</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>Only RED is acceptable for vitreous draw</b>
	Lavender EDTA	Yes Sample needs to be <48hrs old (if >48hrs old, need a full 2mLs)	
	Pink EDTA	Yes	
	Gold Serum/no additive	Yes All testing suitable	Often confused with a yellow top
	Royal Blue Serum/no additive	Yes All testing suitable	Rare that hospital would draw

### Can SUPPLEMENT testing with one of these:

	Light Blue Sodium Citrate	In combination with EDTA/serum	
	Light Green or Green Sodium, lithium, or Ammonium Heparin	In combination with EDTA/serum	
	Yellow ACD	In combination with EDTA/serum	Rare that hospital would draw

### Can NOT use:

	Gray Sodium fluoride	<b>No Unacceptable for any testing</b>	Used by MEs/Coroners for toxicology testing because it shows heavy metals/poisons
	Orange Thrombin-based clot activator with gel for serum separation	<b>No Unacceptable for any testing</b>	These have started to replace Gold Tubes at some hospitals/Coroners/MEs