Health New Zealand
Te Whatu Ora
Taranaki

Recommended Order of Draw

Tube Colour & Tube Name	Volume	Common use For other tests contact the laboratory EXT 7445	Collection Instructions & Number of Inversions
 Aerobic & Anaerobic Blood Cultures	Adult 8-10ml Paed 1-3ml	Aerobic (blue top) and Anaerobic (purple top) Blood Cultures Paediatric aerobic only (pink top) Blood Cultures	Mix 3-4 times by gentle inversion. In an adult set aerobic bottle is to be taken first SAMPLE VOLUME IS CRITICAL PLEASE DO NOT OVERFILL A different venipuncture site should be used for each culture set collected. Do not place label over barcode or over bottle bottom.
 Sodium Citrate	2.7ml	Coagulation Studies, INR, APTT, Fibrinogen, D-Dimer, Lupus anticoagulant (3 x tubes required), Thrombophilia screen (3 x tubes required), Factor studies (eg VIII, IX, X, XI etc)	Mix 3-4 times by gentle inversion. Fill to between etched line and bottom of lid SAMPLE VOLUME CRITICAL - IF USING BUTTERFLY, DISCARD FIRST TUBE THEN ALLOW NEXT TUBE TO COMPLETELY FILL.
 CAPD	10ml	Tissue Typing	Mix 8-10 times
 SST	6ml	Hepatitis B&C/HIV serology	Mix 6 times by gentle inversion.
 Plain	6ml	Routine Biochemistry Tests, Lithium, Serum Protein electrophoresis, most hormone studies, B12 Folate, Serology/Virology (including Hepatitis/HIV), Therapeutic Drug assay, Tumour markers, Rheumatoid Factor	Mix 5-6 times by gentle inversion. If results are required urgently, use green top for routine Biochemistry.
 Lithium Heparin	4ml	Routine Biochemistry Tests, Troponin T, Ketones, BNP. Lactate (must be received within 30 minutes of collection)	Mix 8-10 times by gentle inversion.
 EDTA	4ml	Full Blood Count (FBC), Retic Count, ESR HbA1C, Parathyroid Hormone Ammonia (send on ice, must be received within 10 minutes of collection)	Mix 8-10 times by gentle inversion
 EDTA	6ml	Group & Hold, DAT (direct antiglobulin test) Crossmatch Blood Group, Antibody screen Cold Agglutinins	Labeling must include : Surname, Forename, NHI number, DOB, Time and date of collection signature of phlebotomist
 Trace Element	7ml	Zinc, Copper, Aluminium, Lead, Selenium & other Trace Elements	Mix 8-10 times by gentle inversion. Tube available on request from Laboratory.
 Fluoride	4ml	Glucose for Awanui Labs	Mix 8-10 times by gentle inversion Tube available for order from Awanui Labs
	1ml	QuanitFERON TB Gold	1ml only (volume is critical) into each of the tubes in sequence: grey, green, yellow, purple. Tubes draw slowly. Invert 10 times, ensure tube surface is coated. Transport at room temperature.