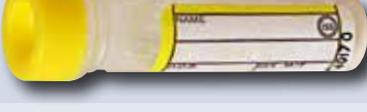


Sample Guide - Bloods

Different sample types, blood tubes required and their main indications for use. Always ensure tubes are correctly filled (to the line) and in-date

E	EDTA (Pink top)	Anti-coagulated whole blood	<i>Haematology</i>	
EP	EDTA plasma (Pink top)	Separated/centrifuged whole blood	<i>*Hormones</i>	
Cit	Sodium Citrate (Green top)	Anti-coagulated whole blood	<i>Coagulation</i>	
HB	Heparin Whole Blood (Orange top)	Anti-coagulated whole blood (HB)	<i>Reptiles/Avians</i>	
HP	Heparin Plasma (Orange top)	Separated/centrifuged whole blood	<i>**Biochemistry</i>	

*Unstable hormones or enzymes, eg ACTH, PTH, Renin

** In general serum is the preferred sample for biochemistry

OxF	Oxalate Fluoride (Yellow top)	Anti-coagulated whole blood	<i>Glucose</i>	
SS	Separated Serum (White top)	Clotted blood	<i>Biochemistry</i>	
SG	Spun Gel (Brown top)	Clotted blood	<i>Biochemistry</i>	
P	Plain Tube (White top)	Clotted blood/serum if separated	<i>Biochemistry</i>	

Notes

- For haematology submit anti-coagulated whole blood (EDTA, Citrate, HB) and 2 fresh, air dried smears
- Serum (SS/SG) is the **preferred** sample for biochemistry for all species
- For small patients, avian and reptiles, heparinised blood (HB) is the most **convenient** sample since it can be used for haematology and biochemistry; 2 fresh (not bottle) air dried smear are also required
- **Glucose Testing** - Blood glucose measurement should be performed on fasted blood whenever possible. A separated serum/spun gel is the preferred sample type for Glucose measurement. Serum/spun gel separation should be performed within 30 minutes of taking the sample. Fluoride Oxalate tubes may also be used for Glucose measurement.
- Samples which require special handling (PTH, PTHrP, ACTH) see page 23
- Serum Gel tubes **should not** be used for therapeutic monitoring, hormone assays or ionised calcium (iCa) estimation
- If sample volume is inadequate for all of the test in a profile, please prioritise the analytes accordingly otherwise they will be processed in a standard order
- Sample supply tubes for **large animals** are also available from the laboratory.