







VACUETTE® SELECTION CHART

Belfast Health and Social Care Trust

Order of Draw for Haematology, Immunology & Microbiology/Virology Tests

NOTE: To avoid reporting delays and to promote prompt processing please send a separate sample for all tests listed on a separate line.

Last updated 14.03.2024

RECOMMENDED ORDER OF DRAW					
Cap Colour	Tube Type	Haematology Tests	Immunology Tests	Microbiology / Virology Tests	Inversions
1	Blood Culture Bottles			Blood Cultures	
2	 Sodium Citrate	Coagulation, INR, D-Dimer/XDP, Thrombophilia Screen, Lupus, Anticoagulant, Factor Assays			Invert 3-4 Times
3	 Serum	Cold Agglutinin			Invert 8-10 Times
4	 Serum Separator		Autoimmune Serology: Connective tissue disease antibodies (ANA, dsDNA/ENA), Hep2 anti-nuclear and centromere antibodies, Anti-phospholipid antibodies, Anti-CCP antibody, Coeliac screen, Gastric parietal cell antibody, Intrinsic factor antibody, Liver associated antibodies, Adrenal antibodies, Diabetes autoantibodies, Ovary/testes antibodies, Anti-acetylcholine receptor antibody, Anti paraneoplastic antibodies, Vasculitis screen (MPO/PR3/ANCA), Anti-GBM. Immunochemistry: Functional antibodies to PSSA, Antibodies to tetanus IgG, meningococcal C, haemophilus and diphtheria, CH50, AH50, C1 esterase functional, C1Q, Mannose Binding Lectin (MBL) Allergy: Total IgE, Allergen specific IgE, Extrinsic allergic alveolitis, Anaphylaxis, Mast cell tryptase.	HIV, Hepatitis B and C, syphilis. For a full list of Microbiology/Virology serology tests please refer to the Belfast Trust Laboratories User Manual: Belfast Trust Laboratories User Manual Belfast Health & Social Care Trust website (hscni.net)	Invert 8-10 Times
5	 Lithium Heparin		Lymphocyte function (Prior arrangement only/ requires control sample. NOTE: Please use Non-Gel Li-Hep tube)		Invert 8-10 Times
6	 K3 EDTA	FBC, Retics, ESR, Maternal samples for Kleihauers, Lymphocyte, Immuno-phenotyping, PNH Screen, Malaria screening	Cellular: Lymphocyte subset phenotyping, Neutrophil function (requires control sample).	Samples for PCR	Invert 8-10 Times
7	 Cross match	Group & Crossmatch, Direct Coombs, Card, Sample for Kleihauers.			Invert 8-10 Times

NOTE: For Blood Cultures - The rubber seal at top of blood culture bottle should be cleaned with alcohol wipe and allowed to dry before inserting needle to add blood.

For any test not listed above see the laboratory discipline manual for sample details.

BHSCT Laboratory manuals can be found at website below or scan QR code → → →

<https://belfasttrust.hscni.net/service/laboratory-services/>



NOTE: See separate poster for Clinical Biochemistry tests order of draw and required bottle types.

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Heamatol.Immunol.
Microbio. Tests
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