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Tube Types for Common Tests

The Test Directory of the website holds information for tubes types, storage conditions, etc. for specific Tests.

A list of tube types for commonly requested tests has been created and the list below should help users of the service in times of contingency (such as TRAK downtime).

Please do not have multi disciplines on 1 request form.

Test	Comments	Sample Container(s) (i.e. Tube Colour, etc.)		Form
ADAMTS13	Thrombotic thrombocytopenia testing (TTP)	CITRATE		Blood Science
AFP	Tumour marker Alpha Feta Protein	SERUM GEL	LITHIUM HEPARIN	Blood Science
Alcohol / Ethanol	Ethanol	FLUORIDE EDTA		Blood Science
Amylase		SERUM GEL	LITHIUM HEPARIN	Blood Science
AST	Not part of LFT profile	SERUM GEL	LITHIUM HEPARIN	Blood Science
Bile Acid		SERUM GEL	LITHIUM HEPARIN	Blood Science
B12 (Vitamin)		SERUM GEL	LITHIUM HEPARIN	Blood Science
CA125	Tumour marker CA-125	SERUM GEL	LITHIUM HEPARIN	Blood Science
Calcium	No tourniquet. Albumin measured with all calcium requests. Corrected calcium routinely reported	SERUM GEL	LITHIUM HEPARIN	Blood Science
Carbamazepine	Collect before next dose	SERUM GEL	LITHIUM HEPARIN	Blood Science
CEA	Tumour marker CEA	SERUM GEL	LITHIUM HEPARIN	Blood Science
Ceruloplasmin		SERUM GEL	LITHIUM HEPARIN	Blood Science
Cholesterol	See also Lipid profile	SERUM GEL	LITHIUM HEPARIN	Blood Science
CK	Creatine kinase	SERUM GEL	LITHIUM HEPARIN	Blood Science
Coagulation screen		CITRATE		Blood Science
Copper	Trace metal tube or Li hep NON-gel (must not state gel on the label)	TRACE METAL	LITHIUM HEPARIN NON-gel	Blood Science
Cortisol		SERUM GEL	LITHIUM HEPARIN	Blood Science
CRP	C-Reactive Protein	SERUM GEL	LITHIUM HEPARIN	Blood Science
Ciclosporin	Collect before next dose	EDTA		Blood Science
D-dimer		CITRATE		Blood Science
Digoxin	6-18 hours after last dose	SERUM GEL	LITHIUM HEPARIN	Blood Science
Drugs of Abuse	Amp, Benz, Coc, EDDP, Opi - NB.Cannabis should be ordered separately.	SPOT URINE		Blood Science
Electrophoresis	Includes total protein and albumin.	SERUM GEL		Blood Science
ESR		EDTA		Blood Science
Factor Assays		CITRATE		Blood Science
Ferritin	First line test for Fe deficiency anaemia	SERUM GEL	LITHIUM HEPARIN	Blood Science
Folate		SERUM GEL	LITHIUM HEPARIN	Blood Science
Free T4	Part of TFT profile	SERUM GEL	LITHIUM HEPARIN	Blood Science
Full blood count	FBC	EDTA		Blood Science

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FSH	Follicle stimulating hormone. State LMP where appropriate.	SERUM GEL	LITHIUM HEPARIN	Blood Science
fT3		SERUM GEL	LITHIUM HEPARIN	Blood Science
Gentamicin		SERUM GEL	LITHIUM HEPARIN	Blood Science
GH	Growth Hormone	SERUM GEL	LITHIUM HEPARIN	Blood Science
Gonadotrophins	State LMP where appropriate	SERUM GEL	LITHIUM HEPARIN	Blood Science
GTT	Gluc.Tol. Test - state sample times	FLUORIDE EDTA		Blood Science
Glucose	Tick Random or Fasting Glucose	FLUORIDE EDTA		Blood Science
Haemoglobinopathy screen	needs a fbc and ferritin to complete screen	EDTA		Blood Science
HbA1c		EDTA		Blood Science
Heparin Therapy	UFH assay or LMWH assay (anti Xa)	CITRATE		Blood Science
HIT screen	Heparin induced thrombocytopenia	SERUM GEL		Blood Science
Immunoglobulins	IgA, IgG, IgM	SERUM GEL	LITHIUM HEPARIN	Blood Science
Immunophenotyping		EDTA		Blood Science
IM screen	infectious mononucleosis	EDTA		Blood Science
Iron/transferrin	Iron, Transferrin - Useful if ferritin is raised. NOT 1st line test for Fe deficiency anaemia	SERUM GEL	LITHIUM HEPARIN	Blood Science
Lactate		FLUORIDE EDTA		Blood Science
LDH	Lactate Dehydrogenase	SERUM GEL	LITHIUM HEPARIN	Blood Science
Lead (Pb)		EDTA		Blood Science
Liver Function	Bilirubin, ALT, ALP, G-GT, [Alb]	SERUM GEL	LITHIUM HEPARIN	Blood Science
LH	Lutenising Hormone. State LMP	SERUM GEL	LITHIUM HEPARIN	Blood Science
Lipids	Cholesterol, trig, HDL, C:HDL	SERUM GEL	LITHIUM HEPARIN	Blood Science
Lithium	Ideally 12 hrs after last dose	SERUM GEL		Blood Science
Malaria	Discuss with laboratory. Ideally delivery within 2 hours to laboratory.	EDTA		Blood Science
Magnesium	Usually in addition to Calcium/Albumin	SERUM GEL	LITHIUM HEPARIN	Blood Science
Oestradiol	State LMP where appropriate	SERUM GEL	LITHIUM HEPARIN	Blood Science
Osmolality		SERUM GEL	LITHIUM HEPARIN	Blood Science
Paracetamol		SERUM GEL	LITHIUM HEPARIN	Blood Science
Phenobarbitone	Timing not critical	SERUM GEL	LITHIUM HEPARIN	Blood Science
Phenytoin	Timing not critical	SERUM GEL	LITHIUM HEPARIN	Blood Science
Phosphate	Usually in addition to Calcium/Albumin	SERUM GEL	LITHIUM HEPARIN	Blood Science
PNH	Paroxysmal nocturnal haemoglobinuria	EDTA		Blood Science
Progesterone	State LMP where appropriate	SERUM GEL	LITHIUM HEPARIN	Blood Science
Prolactin		SERUM GEL	LITHIUM HEPARIN	Blood Science
PSA	Tumour marker	SERUM GEL	LITHIUM HEPARIN	Blood Science

Authority for Issue: Bernard Lawless	Page 2 of 3
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PTH	Parathyroid hormone - see Lab Website	EDTA	Blood Science
Salicylate		SERUM GEL LITHIUM HEPARIN	Blood Science
Tacrolimus		EDTA	Blood Science
Testosterone		SERUM GEL LITHIUM HEPARIN	Blood Science
TFT	Thyroid function: TSH, free T4	SERUM GEL LITHIUM HEPARIN	Blood Science
Thrombophilia		3 CITRATE / 1 RED	Blood Science
Total Protein		SERUM GEL LITHIUM HEPARIN	Blood Science
Total T3	Total T3 – not part of TFTs	SERUM GEL LITHIUM HEPARIN	Blood Science
TRAB(S)	Thyroid receptor antibodies	SERUM GEL	Blood Science
Triglyceride	Part of lipid profile	SERUM GEL LITHIUM HEPARIN	Blood Science
Troponin		SERUM GEL LITHIUM HEPARIN	Blood Science
TSH	Part of TFTs or TSH monitoring	SERUM GEL LITHIUM HEPARIN	Blood Science
Urate	Uric Acid / Gout	SERUM GEL LITHIUM HEPARIN	Blood Science
Urine Osmolality		SPOT URINE	Blood Science
U & Es	Na, K, Urea, Creatinine, eGFR - Total CO2 can be requested separately	SERUM GEL LITHIUM HEPARIN	Blood Science
Valproate		SERUM GEL LITHIUM HEPARIN	Blood Science
Vancomycin		SERUM GEL LITHIUM HEPARIN	Blood Science
Virus & Microbiology Serology	Requires clinical info including date of onset/exposure	SERUM GEL	Virology
Virus & Microbiology PCR	Requires clinical info including date of onset/exposure	EDTA	Virology
Warfarin	INR	CITRATE	Blood Science
Zinc (Zn)	Trace metal tube or Li hep NON-gel (must not state gel on the label)	TRACE METAL LITHIUM HEPARIN NON-gel	Blood Science