

Tube Color and Label Activity

Purpose: To help students with learning tube colors, additives, departments of the laboratory and which tube to draw for what test.

Materials:

Tube Templates
Urinalysis Template
Microbiology Template
Colored Pencils

Metal Ring
Scissors
Contact paper/ lamination

Copy templates on paper for students. I use card stock because it is heavier and holds up better.

Directions:

For homework, have students cut out tubes, urinalysis cup and microbiology plate. Have students bring to class the next day. Each student needs: 12 tubes, 1 micro plate, 1 blood culture bottle, 1 urinalysis cup

Tube 1 :

Stopper color: purple

In label write: Hematology

write K₂EDTA under Hematology

In Tube write:

CBC

ESR

Reticulocyte

Eosinophil count

Cell Counts (CSF, Pleural, synovial, pericardial

Tube 2 FRONT SIDE

Stopper color : Red

In Label write: Clinical Chemistry

write Clot Activator

In Tube write:

Na⁺, K⁺, Cl⁻, CO₂, Cholesterol and triglycerides
Iron / Total iron binding capacity (TIBC)

Ferritin

Uric Acid

Creatinine and BUN

AST,ALT,alkaline phosphatase, LDH, and bilirubin

CK (creatinine Kinase), Troponin

Amylase

Lipase

Glucose

Hormones

Drug Analysis

TUBE 2 BACK SIDE

Stopper Color: Red

In label write: Immunology/Serology

write: clot activator

In Tube write :

Cold Agglutinin

ASO (Anti Streptilyson O Titer)

RPR, VDRL

Haptoglobin

Rubella

Serum Preganancy Test

CRP (C-reactive protein

TUBE 3

Stopper Color: Red and Grey Camo Color about an ½ inch of the bottom of the tube yellow.

In label write : Clinical Chemistry

write: SST- Serum Separator under Clinical Chemistry

In Tube write: same tests as red top.

(This tube has a polymer gel in the bottom and when the tube is put into the centrifuge and spun down, the gel at the bottom of the tube travels up to separate the red blood cells from the liquid portion which is called serum)

Back side of Tube 3

Stopper Color: Gold Color about an ½ inch of the bottom of the tube yellow.

In label write : Clinical Chemistry

write: SST- Serum Separator under Clinical Chemistry

In Tube write: same tests as red top.

(The only difference is when the tube is put into the centrifuge and spun down, the gel at the bottom of the tube travels up to separate the red blood cells from the liquid portion which is called serum)

Tube 4

Stopper Color : Green

In label write: Clinical Chemistry

write: Lithium heparin, Sodium Heparin, Ammonium Heparin under Clinical Chemistry

In Tube write : STAT CHEMISTRY

Same tests as red and SST

(Used for stat chemistries because blood does not have to clot)

Back of Tube 4

Stopper Color: Green and black Camo

In label write: Clinical Chemistry

write: Lithium heparin, Sodium Heparin, Ammonium Heparin under Clinical Chemistry

In Tube write : STAT CHEMISTRY

Same tests as red and SST

(Used for STAT Chemistries because blood does not have to clot. This tube also has a polymer gel in the bottom to separate blood cells from plasma

Tube 5:

Stopper Color : Tan

In label write: Clinical Chemistry
write; K_2 EDTA

In tube write : Lead

Tube 6:

Stopper Color : Gray

In label write: Clinical Chemistry

write: Potassium Oxalate and sodium fluoride

Na_2 EDTA and Sodium fluoride

Sodium Fluoride under Clinical Chemistry

In Tube write : Glucose, Alcohol, Lactic Acid

Tube 7:

Stopper Color : Pink

In label write: Blood Bank

Write: K_3 EDTA

In Tube write: Blood Bank using gel system

Tube 8

Stopper Color : Red

In label write: Blood Bank

write: NO ADDITIVE !!!!! IT MUST BE PLAIN

In Tube write : ABO/Rh, Antibody Screen

Type and Cross

BACK SIDE OF TUBE 8

Stopper Color : Purple

In label write: Blood Bank

Write: K_2 EDTA

In Tube write : Direct Coombs (DAT)

Tube 9:

Stopper Color : Light Blue

In label write: Coagulation (Hematology)
write: Sodium Citrate

In Tube write :

PT

PTT

Fibrinogen

D-Dimer

DIC Panel

Tube 10:

Stopper Color : Royal Blue

Color of tube label indicates additive:

- purple – EDTA (plasma)
- green – heparin (plasma)
- red – none (serum)

In Tube write: Nutrients, toxicology and trace metal analysis for: Antimony, Arsenic, Cadmium, Chromium, Copper, Lead, Magnesium, Manganese, and Zinc.

Tube 11:

Stopper Color : Black

In label write: Buffered Sodium Citrate

In Tube write: Westergren Sedimentation Rate

Tube 12:

Stopper Color: Yellow

In label write: Acid Citrate Dextrose

In Tube write: Genetic and tissue testing

Tube 3 FRONT SIDE

Stopper color : Red

In Label write: Clinical Chemistry

write: Clot Activator

In Tube write:

Microbiology Plate:

On Micro Plate write: Culture and Sensitivity (urine culture, throat culture, blood culture, Fungal culture)

Pin worm prep

Ova and parasite

Occult Blood

Gram Stain

Urinalysis Cup:

Label Cup Urinalysis

On Cup Write:

Glucose, protein, bilirubin, specific gravity, pH, urine pregnancy, RBC, WBC, Nitrite, Ketones, Urobilinogen





