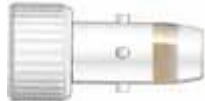








GUIDE TO THE USE OF BLOOD TUBES FOR ROUTINE LABORATORY TESTS

TUBE CAP COLOUR/ CONTENTS (EUROPEAN)	COLOUR	APPLICATION
White (No Anticogulant)		Clinical Chemistry/ Virology/ Bacteriology/ Immunology
Orange (Lithium Heparin)		Troponin
Red/ Pink (EDTA)		F.B.C./ Blood Transfusion
Yellow (Fluoride EDTA)		Glucose (Adult)
Yellow (Heparin Fluoride)		Glucose (Paediatric)
Green (Trisodium Citrate 1:9)		Coagulation
Purple (Trisodium Citrate 1:4)		ESR

Where multiple blood tubes are to be drawn, the tubes should be taken in the following sequence:-

Clotted	}	CCLEF
Citrate		
Lithium Heparin		
EDTA		
Fluoride		

Note: The European and American colour code systems are different and both systems are used in Ireland. For comprehensive guidelines for available Laboratory tests, please refer to the Primary Sample Collection Manual.

