

Capillary Order of Draw (Heel/finger prick)

To avoid haemolysis:

- Ensure the heel is warm prior to collection.
- Allow the alcohol to dry completely before skin puncture.
- Wipe away the first drop of blood
- Do not squeeze the foot.
- Do not scrape blood from the puncture site.
- Do not shake samples, mix gently as required.
- Do not expose samples to heat.
- Avoid puncturing areas with previous puncture marks or bruising.
- Do not transfer blood from one tube to another, as this causes additive contamination.
- Avoid overfilling or under filling paediatric tubes, as this alters the anticoagulant-to-blood ratio.



Capillary Tube

Common Tests:
Venous Blood Gas

Gently invert 8 times to mix.



EDTA

Common Tests:
FBE, Tacro, HbA1C, Crossmatch Group & Hold

Gently invert 8 times to mix.



Sodium Citrate

Common Tests:
INR, D-Dimer, Coags

Gently invert 8 times to mix. Citrate tubes must be filled to line.



Lithium Heparin

Common Tests:
Plasma Metanephrines

Gently invert 8 times to mix.



Fluoride Oxalate (FLOX)

Common Tests:
GTT, Lactate, Ethanol

Gently invert 8 times to mix.



Serum Separator Tube (SST)

Common Tests:
Troponin, LFT, U&E, CMP, Fe Studies, BSL, CRP

Gently invert 8 times to mix. Amber Paed tube to be used for light sensitive tests e.g. Bilirubin

Please refer to the RCPA Paediatric Volume per weight collection guide for paediatric blood collection:
<https://www.rcpa.edu.au/Manuals/RCPA-Manual/General-Information/Chart/Chart-B>