

News

Clinical Laboratory Test Update

Routine Chemistry Tests and Specimen Acceptability

This is a reminder that dark green *sodium heparin* collection tubes are unacceptable for routine chemistry testing. This does not apply to dark green *lithium heparin* collection tubes. The images below display where to locate the additive information on the collection tube.

This message is in response to recent inquiries regarding acceptable tube types. The use of dark green sodium heparin tubes can cause spurious values in routine chemistry testing and are only utilized in rare circumstances (e.g. limited test menu, severe hemolysis, questionable draw, etc.). The preferred sample type for routine chemistry testing is the light green lithium heparin tube with gel.

If you have questions or concerns regarding specimen acceptability, please refer to the online test directory located in our lab website or through the following link: <https://www.testmenu.com/universityhospital>

Please contact the Clinical Laboratory at 720-848-4401 if you have any questions or visit our website at <https://www.uchealth.org/professionals/uch-clinical-laboratory/> for additional information.

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