What You Need to Know — UCH's Transition to 3.0 mL High Altitude Greiner Coag Tube

Effective September 1, 2025, UCHealth will transition to 3.0 mL High Altitude Greiner sodium citrate tubes for coagulation testing.

Previous tube: 3.5 mL sodium citrate



New tube: 3 mL sodium citrate

- Smaller volume required
- Performs better at higher altitudes

Venipuncture Collection (Preferred) for Coagulation Testing

Collect a discard tube.

If using a blood collection device with tubing, collect a discard tube (white or light blue only) first to prime the tubing.

Hold the tube securely in place by pressing with a thumb.



Ensure blood flow has completely stopped before removing tube from holder.

Blood must be between the MINIMUM and MAXIMUM fill indicators; samples outside this range cannot be confirmed for accuracy and will be REJECTED.



*For syringe draws – fill the tube to the correct volume within 1 minute



Remove the tube from the holder, and gently invert four times to mix blood and additive.





Carefully place patient label.



Vascular Access Device (VAD) Collection for Coagulation Testing

Under certain circumstances, blood specimens for coagulation testing may be drawn from a vascular access device (VAD) using a blood collection system or a syringe.

Flush the line with 5 mL of saline, and the first 5 mL of blood or 6 dead-space volumes of the VAD should be discarded