



Clinical Laboratory and Pathology Services

TO: Beebe Healthcare Medical Staff
FROM: Dr. Xiaoli Chen
DATE: 5/26/2021
SUBJECT: BD Vacutainer Citrate Tube Supply Issue (Blue Top)

Background Information:

We are currently on supply allocation for or BD Sodium Citrate Tube used for coagulation testing due to global shortage. There is no available alternative as the main competitor experienced manufacturing issues earlier this year and is in the same position as BD. We are anticipating this supply issue to persist through July and are continually working with our Cardinal distributor to keep supplies coming.

Testing Performed on Blue Top Tubes:

- PTT
- PT INR
- Anti Xa
- Fibrinogen
- D-Dimer
- Anti-thrombin III
- Lupus Panel
- All Specialized Coagulation Studies

What we can do:

All testing is still being performed. We want to make all Healthcare providers aware of the shortage in an effort to reduce any non-essential testing or blood collection. As the allocation continues please evaluate the need for each test in the patient's treatment plan. If multiple studies are needed please try to keep all on one order, or request an add-on test if appropriate. For those that perform venipuncture we are asking that no blue top tube is used as a waste tube and no blue top is drawn without an order. We will let you know of any updates. Please reach out if you have any questions.

Thank you,

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