

ALLINA HEALTH LABORATORY

Memo

To: Allina Health Laboratory outreach clients

From: Allina Health Laboratory outreach services

Date: September 21, 2022

Re: Critical shortage of blood collection tube supply – metal free tube supply ordering

The national supply chain of metal free tubes continues to be strained. However, Allina Health Laboratory has obtained slightly more inventory and will transition from fixed allocation to fulfillment through the Allina Health Supply Catalog.

All conservation efforts remain in place:

- Utilizing all tubes right up until expiration date and reallocating supply throughout the system.
- Deferring non-critical testing that can be delayed until additional tube supply can be obtained.
- Utilizing alternative blood collection tube containers whenever possible.
- Best practice restrictions are still in place for zinc, copper, and selenium test orders.

Effective immediately:

When additional supply of Navy Blue Metal Free EDTA, Navy Blue No Additive, and Tan metal free K2EDTA blood collection tubes is needed:

- Submit a request through the AHL Supply catalog for (5) five or less.
- Orders for greater than (5) five will not be honored.
- Monthly allocations will no longer be sent.

Continue to collect zinc, selenium, and copper in Navy top tubes.

Test name	Test #	Alternative tube type
Aluminum, serum or plasma	994	Lavender EDTA
Antimony, blood	994	Lavender EDTA
Arsenic, blood	2556	Lavender EDTA
Barium, blood	12519	Lavender EDTA
Bismuth, whole blood	994	Lavender EDTA
Cadmium	1636	Lavender EDTA
Chromium, plasma	994	Lavender EDTA
Chromium, serum/plasma	12463	Lavender EDTA
Chromium, whole blood	12464	Lavender EDTA
Cobalt, serum	2562	Lavender EDTA
Cobalt, whole blood	12518	Lavender EDTA
Fluoride serum/plasma	994	Lavender EDTA
Iodine serum/plasma	994	Lavender EDTA
Lead, venous	13306	Tan K2EDTA
Manganese plasma	13360	Lavender EDTA
Mercury, blood	13312	Lavender EDTA
Metal panel (As, Cd, Hg, Pb) blood	13309	Lavender EDTA
Methyl bromide as metabolite, blood	994	Lavender EDTA
Nickel, blood	2578	Lavender EDTA
Thallium, serum or plasma	994	Lavender EDTA
Titanium, serum or plasma	994	Lavender EDTA
Zinc protoporphyrin	13303	Lavender EDTA

If providers have questions regarding these tests, they may contact Client Services at (612) 863-4678.