



TEST INFORMATION UPDATE

ROYAL BLUE TUBE SHORTAGE

TRACE ELEMENT TESTING

June 14, 2022

National Shortage of Royal Blue Trace Element Collection Tubes

Please see notice below from ARUP Labs regarding temporary acceptance of alternate tubes for trace element analysis. Please contact VUMC Lab Customer Service for questions or additional information: 615-875-5227 (5-LABS)



Blood Tube Supply Shortage

Alternative Tubes Temporarily Accepted

June 13, 2022

Dear Valued Client,

In response to a nationwide shortage of blood specimen collection tubes used for trace elements testing, ARUP will now temporarily accept the following alternatives for the indicated specimen and test types.

- Lavender (EDTA) tubes for blood and plasma collection
- Red top (serum) tubes for serum collection

This list includes the use of noncertified trace-free blood collection tubes. It is recommended that elevated element concentrations be confirmed with a second specimen collected in a certified metal-free tube when available. Elevated concentrations should be interpreted with caution when specimens are collected in noncertified, trace-free blood collection tubes.

Affected Tests

These alternative tube types will be temporarily accepted for the following tests:

<u>0099266</u>	Aluminum, Serum
<u>0098830</u>	Chromium, Serum
<u>0025037</u>	Cobalt, Serum or Plasma
<u>0020096</u>	Copper, Serum or Plasma
<u>2007463</u>	Iodine, Serum
<u>0099265</u>	Manganese, Serum
<u>0099452</u>	Nickel, Serum
<u>0025023</u>	Selenium, Serum or Plasma
<u>0020097</u>	Zinc, Serum or Plasma
<u>0099007</u>	Antimony, Blood
<u>0099045</u>	Arsenic, Blood
<u>0099478</u>	Bismuth, Blood
<u>0099675</u>	Cadmium, Blood
<u>0099231</u>	Cobalt, Blood
<u>0020745</u>	Lead, Blood (Capillary)
<u>0020098</u>	Lead, Blood (Venous)
<u>0099272</u>	Manganese, Whole Blood
<u>0099305</u>	Mercury, Whole Blood
<u>0099610</u>	Thallium, Whole Blood
<u>2009373</u>	Zinc Quantitative, Whole Blood
<u>3003756</u>	Copper, Red Blood Cells
<u>0092079</u>	Magnesium, RBC
<u>3003758</u>	Zinc, Red Blood Cells

We understand that you and your staff are experiencing challenges due to these shortages. Please be assured that patient care is our top priority, and we are here to support you as we work together to find solutions.