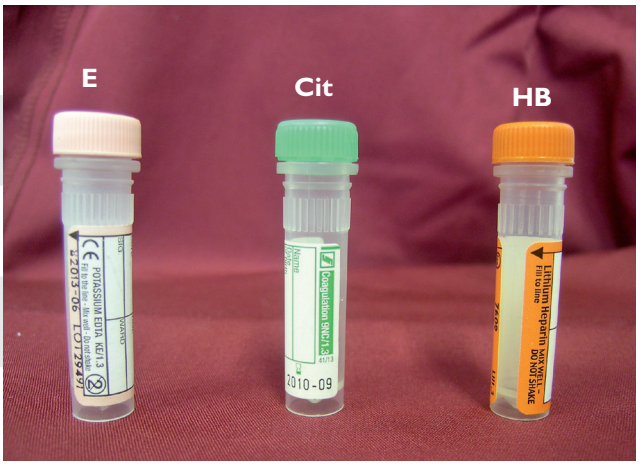
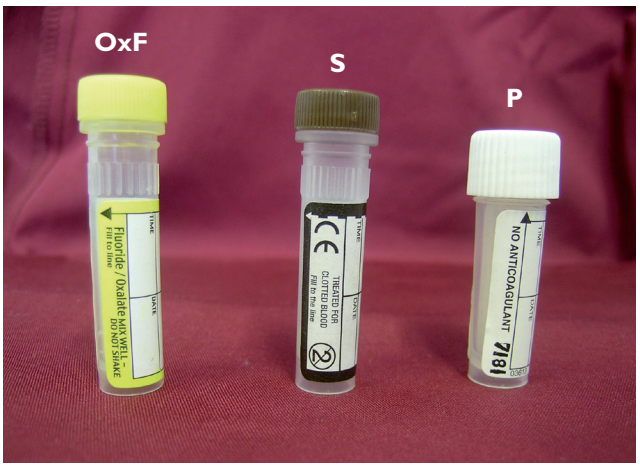
Sample Guide - Bloods

A guide to help you provide the correct samples. Different types of blood tubes are listed on the left hand side followed by the sample description and the main indications for use. **Always ensure tubes are correctly filled (to the line) and in-date.**

E	EDTA (Pink top)	Anti-coagulated whole blood	*Haematology*
EP	EDTA plasma	Separated/centrifuged whole blood	* *Hormones*
Cit	1:10 Sodium Citrate (Green top)	Anti-coagulated whole blood	*Coagulation*
HB	Lithium Heparin (Orange top)	Anti-coagulated whole blood (HB)	*Reptiles/Avians*
HP	Heparin Plasma	Separated/centrifuged whole blood	** *Biochemistry*



* Unstable hormones or enzymes, eg ACTH, PTH, Renin
** In general serum is the preferred sample for biochemistry



OxF	Oxalate Flouride (Yellow top)	Anti-coagulated whole blood	*Glucose*
S	Serum Gel (Brown top)	Clotted blood	*Biochemistry*
P	Plain Tube (White top)	Clotted blood/serum if separated	*Biochemistry*

Notes

- For hematology submit EDTA and 2 fresh, air dried smears. See page 44 for smear preparation techniques.
- Serum (S) is the **preferred** sample for biochemistry for ALL species.
- For small patients, avian and reptiles Heparinised blood (HB) is the most **convenient** sample since it can be used for haematology and biochemistry; 2 fresh (not bottle) air dried smear are also required.
- Samples which require special handling (PTH, ACTH, nt-ProBNP) are indicated in the price list. Sample packs (PTH, ACTH) or special collection tubes (nt-ProBNP) are available on request.
- Serum Gel tubes **should not** be used for therapeutic monitoring, progesterone assays or ionised calcium (iCa) estimation.
- If sample volume is inadequate for all of the test in a profile, please prioritise the analytes accordingly otherwise they will be processed in a standard order.