

CLIENT BULLETIN



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Dear Valued Customer:

Over the next few months, PacTox will replace the **glass** BD Vacutainer™ Blood Collection **K₃EDTA** tube with a **plastic** BD Vacutainer™ Blood Collection **K₂EDTA** tube. This replacement will effect both the Lavendar and Royal Blue top tubes.

Understanding the physical differences between **K₂EDTA** and **K₃EDTA**.

- ?? The **K₂EDTA** solution is sprayed-dried on the interior surface of the **plastic** tubes.
- ?? The **K₃EDTA** is a liquid solution in the **glass** tubes.

It should be emphasized that irrespective of the EDTA salt used for anticoagulation, all tubes must be inverted 8-10 times to ensure thorough mixing of the blood with the anticoagulant. The International Council for Standardization in Hematology and CLSI (formerly NCCLS) have recommended **K₂EDTA** as the anticoagulant of choice for blood cell counting and sizing. BD Services internal studies showed no clinically significant differences when comparing **K₃EDTA** glass tubes to **K₂EDTA** plastic tubes. OSHA also recommends the use of plastic rather than glass tubes.

If you have further questions or concerns, please contact PacTox Client Services at 800-328-6942.

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