BD Vacutainer Blue Top Tube Notification

April 25, 2018

The Laboratory has received notification from BD Vacutainer regarding an issue with blue top tubes unintentionally filling above an acceptable fill level. BD reports that this appears to occur in approximately 3 to 4% of tubes.

PHLEBOTOMISTS: Please inspect all blue top tubes at the time of collection for over-filling [as well as under-filling].

TECHS: Please be aware of the overfill potential when processing/testing coag tests.

We have performed testing in-house to determine “Overfilling”. We have determined that, as a rule of thumb, if, when held vertically, you can see daylight between the top surface of the blood and the tube cap, the tube in NOT overfilled.

Please do not hesitate to contact me or your supervisor if you have any questions or concerns,

John R Samuel, MT(ASCP)

Core Laboratory Supervisor

UPMC Pinnacle

Hanover

300 Highland Avenue

Hanover, Pa 17331

(717) 316-2150 X4363

[John.Samuel@pinnaclehealth.org](mailto:John.Samuel@pinnaclehealth.org)

