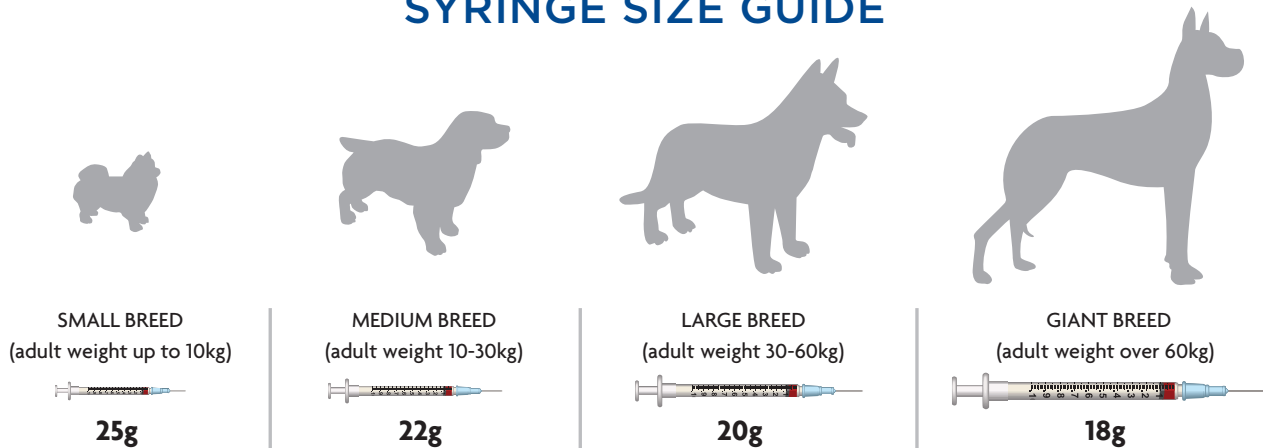


# Sample Handling Methods

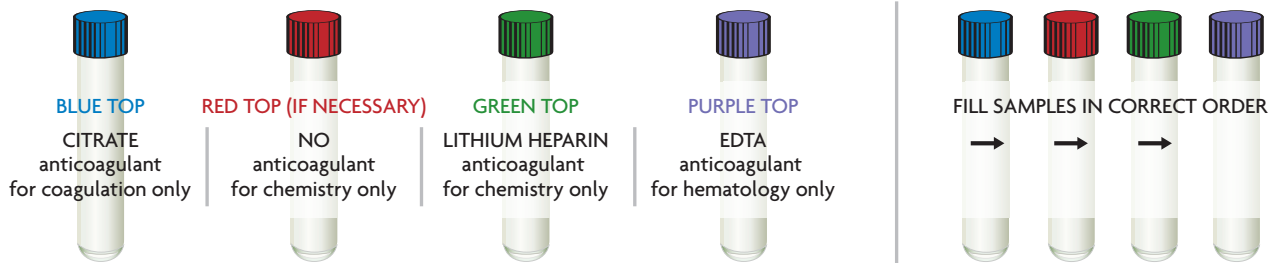
## SYRINGE SIZE GUIDE



\*Remove needle before dispensing to avoid hemolysis.

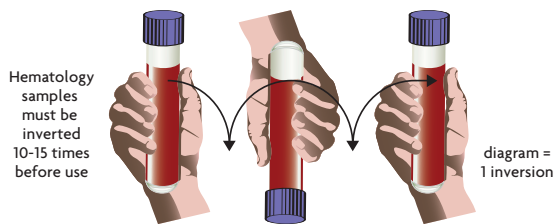
\*Dispense slowly into sample tube.

## TEST TUBE COLOR CHART



Always fill samples in correct order to avoid contamination. Green top tubes should never be placed on a test tube rocker.

## TEST TUBE HANDLING



Using chemistry samples contaminated with EDTA severely effects results, most notably CA and K+. Samples, stored at room temperature, should be used within one hour for **lithium heparin**, 3-4 hours for **EDTA** samples.

## COMMON PROBLEMS WITH TEST RESULTS DUE TO SAMPLE QUALITY

**HEMOLYSIS**  
broken RBC's distorts analyte values - causes pink plasma

**LIPEMIA**  
lipemia interferes with all chemical reactions and milky plasma distorts light absorption

**ICTERUS**  
excessive bilirubin pigments - causes yellow plasma



remind your clients to **NOT** feed their pets for 4-6 hours prior to their appointment to avoid lipemia