Laboratory Notice: Expired Blue Top Tubes

I
Introduction
(Why is this important?)

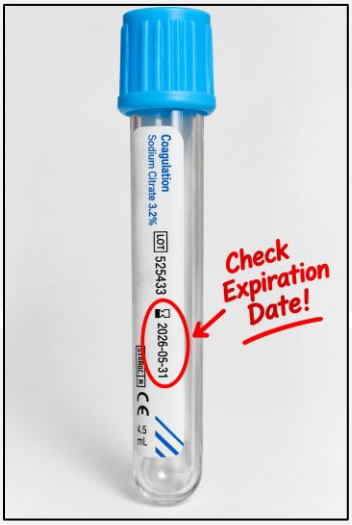
- Expired collection tubes can result in rejected laboratory tests and patient recollections.
- Expired blue top collection tubes can result in tubes not filling completely, resulting in inaccurate results and/or recollection.

S
Situation
(What is the current situation?)

- Expired blue top tubes are circulating on patient care floors.
- **Expired blue-top tubes have been identified on: T15S, T21N, T12S, T17S, and T18N floors**
  Lots: 5225437 and 5225433
  Expiration Date: 2026-05-31

B
Background
(What is important to know about the background?)

- Several coagulation tests were cancelled for underfilled tubes.
- The laboratory was able to **validate and verify** expired tubes were used for patient laboratory specimens.



A
Assessment
(What is the evaluation?)
(Could include costs, risks, etc.)

- Underfilled tubes must be recollected.
- Expired tubes cannot be used for patient testing.

R
Recommendation
(What actions need to take place?)

- Perform a **self check of expiration dates** for patient collection of laboratory specimens.
- **Validate and verify** current supply for expired collection tubes. Throw away all expired tubes.

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