

The end-point of this being that in the ED a higher than normal percentage of test results are analytically less reliable or withheld from the ED doctors due to poor specimen quality, thereby in some cases delaying the adequate work-up of patients. One important culprit in this is the combined use of intravenous (IV) cannulas and standard vacuum tubes for drawing blood” Ramakers (2017).

Extract:

“Hemolysis rates in the emergency department (ED) pose a serious challenge [1], [2]. The end-point of this being that in the ED a higher than normal percentage of test results are analytically less reliable or withheld from the ED doctors due to poor specimen quality, thereby in some cases delaying the adequate work-up of patients. One important culprit in this is the combined use of intravenous (IV) cannulas and standard vacuum tubes for drawing blood. While there are reports showing no influence of decreased vacuum on improvement of hemolysis rates [3], with the recent publication by Mrazek and colleagues in this journal [4] there is increasing evidence that partial draw blood collection tubes with reduced vacuum do improve hemolysis rates, especially when blood is taken from IV cannulas [5], [6]. Partial-draw tubes are tubes where the vacuum is set such that the potential shear forces experienced by red blood cells are reduced due to a lower vacuum, resulting in a tube that is not completely filled” Ramakers (2017).

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Reference:

Ramakers, C. (2017) BD Vacutainer® Barricor tube in the emergency department: reduced hemolysis rates using partial draw tubes with reduced vacuum. Clinical Chemistry and



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