Butterfly Needles and Blue Tops

For proper filling of Blue top tubes when using a Butterfly (winged collection set) and to avoid specimen rejection due to quantity not sufficient...

1. Draw a “discard tube” first!
2. Discard tube MUST be a Blue top tube, to avoid cross contamination of anticoagulants.
3. It is only necessary to draw a discard tube 1st when using a Butterfly for venipuncture.
4. The tube vacuum fills the length of the tubing to pull blood into the tube. This is why the first tube will not completely fill and is your discard tube.
5. When tubing is filled and flowing into the first blue top; switch to the second blue top and it will fill properly.
6. Throw away (discard) the first blue top. Send the second, properly filled tube to the lab.
7. Refer to proper FILL LINE below, the minimum line is etched on the tube.

Draw Volume Guide: Completely fill the collection tube to avoid test refusal. Blood drawn must fall above Minimum Fill Indicator (frosted line on tube) and below Maximum Fill Line (as illustrated).

For blood transfer from a syringe, do not fill above illustrated dashed Maximum Fill line.

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