

In Vitro Diagnostic (IVD) tubes

Examples of incorrect PRP kits being marketed and sold in Ireland and the UK.



These tubes look like IVD tubes with the characteristics of IVD tubes. They are being sold as PRP tubes for aesthetic reinjecting. They are short, typical of IVD tubes and don't reach the bottom of the plastic blister.

Lavender stoppers in IVD tubes routinely identify an EDTA salt as an anticoagulant used for hematology tests. An EDTA salt anticoagulant definitely does not work for preparing viable platelet concentrates.

There are other lavender topped IVD tubes sold as PRP tubes in the UK, with ACD-A anticoagulant written on the label. This is not following the EU standard for anticoagulant in Lavender stopper tubes which should be an EDTA salt. Of Chinese origin.

Red stopper IVD tubes with no anticoagulant are for the preparation of a fibrin clot that is suitable in IVD for chemistry analysis. They are also acceptable to prepare PRF clots for topical application in wound healing and dental surgery.

Light blue stopper IVD tubes such as these and which are used for PT analysis, include a separating gel and a citrate-based anticoagulant. The formula of the anticoagulant is not clear however nor the pH. The gel has not been tested and is not meant to be used for a reinjectable product.