Cancer Patient Receiving Weekly Chemotherapy

Linda, a cancer patient in her thirties, arrived at the chemotherapy outpatient center for her weekly chemotherapy treatment. She knew the routine. First they collect two tubes of blood, a "purple top" (EDTA) and a "gold top" (SST™), and then the waiting began.

The doctor needed the results of the blood tests before she could begin her chemotherapy treatment for that day. The waiting was difficult. She was anxious to review the results with her doctor. **Was the cocktail still effective?** Was the tumor continuing to shrink? She had been on this cocktail for two months now. The side effects were tough – nausea, fatigue, mouth sores - but the doctor said it was the best option available. If it was no longer working... Linda didn't want to think about that now.

Was she healthy enough to go through another round of chemo? It was not easy to schedule these weekly trips. She needed someone to drive her back and forth, and someone to help her with the kids at home, but to go home with no treatment – that was even worse. Linda was determined to fight this with all her strength. She wanted to continue with her therapy.

It was difficult enough to spend hours hooked up to the machine that delivered the chemotherapy drugs into her system, **why did it take so long for the results to come back?** The wait seemed endless for Linda. Every week it was the same. She just wanted to get the chemotherapy and go home to her family. Every visit, it took over an hour before she could proceed to treatment.

Where were the test results?

- 30 minutes for the tube to clot
- 10 minutes for centrifugation
- Approximately 45 minutes in the analyzer.

For Linda, every minute is precious.

There is an alternative.

BD Vacutainer® Rapid Serum Tube

- Clots in only 5 minutes
- May reduce laboratory turnaround time by up to 32 minutes

Faster turnaround time

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Impact decision making

▼

Improved patient care

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1 Becton Drive
Franklin Lakes, NJ 07417
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