








BLOOD CULTURE COLLECTION: NEEDLE & SYRINGE



BLOOD CULTURE COLLECTION*

- Do not use damaged or expired bottles.
- Remove the “flip-cap”. Disinfect & allow to air dry.
- Collect 2-3 sets.
- 10 mL of blood per bottle for an adult.
- Volume based on weight for pediatric patients.**
- Transport to the laboratory as quickly as possible.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR BLOOD CULTURE COLLECTION

	<p>1 CHECK PATIENT ID & PREPARE MATERIAL</p>	<p>2 PREPARE BOTTLES FOR INOCULATION</p>  <p>Wash hands or use an alcohol hand rub.</p> <p>Remove the plastic “flip-cap”. Disinfect the bottle septum and allow to air dry.</p>	<p>3 PREPARE VENIPUNCTURE SITE</p>  <p>Palpate to find the vein. Apply clean examination gloves.</p> <p>Disinfect the skin. Allow the site to air dry.</p>	<p>4 COLLECT WITH NEEDLE AND SYRINGE</p>  <p>Assemble the needle and syringe.</p> <p>To prevent contamination, do not re-palpate. Insert the needle into the prepared vein.</p>
<p>5 BOTTLE INOCULATION</p>  <p>Collect the anaerobic bottle first***.</p> <p>Ensure the bottle is correctly filled to the Fill-to Mark or target fill level, as shown.</p> <p>Repeat for aerobic bottle.</p>	<p>6 FINISH THE PROCEDURE</p> <p>Record collection date, time and site.</p> <p>Label bottles according to manufacturer’s recommendations.</p> <p>Transport inoculated bottles as quickly as possible at room temperature to laboratory for testing.</p>	<p>7 CORRECT LABELING</p> 	<p>DO NOT</p>  <p>Leave cotton over the septum</p> <p>Replace the plastic “flip-cap”</p> <p>Position label in the wrong place</p>	

* Best practices for blood culture collection vary among countries and healthcare facilities: refer to guidelines applicable in your institution. This card is based on World Health Organization recommendations for phlebotomy (WHO guidelines on drawing blood: best practices in phlebotomy-2010-ISBN 978 92 4 159922 1).

** Pediatric bottles are available.

*** Fill the anaerobic bottle first if enough blood volume was collected to fill the aerobic blood bottle with the recommended volume.

CHECKLIST FOR NEEDLE & SYRINGE COLLECTION

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Approved skin disinfectant <input type="checkbox"/> Blood culture set (ideally 2 to 3 sets; 1 set = 1 aerobic bottle + 1 anaerobic bottle) <input type="checkbox"/> Needle and Syringe <input type="checkbox"/> Blood collection tubes (if blood is needed for other laboratory tests) <input type="checkbox"/> Blood collection tube adaptor (if required) <input type="checkbox"/> Gloves <input type="checkbox"/> Disposable underpad | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Tourniquet <input type="checkbox"/> Gauze pads <input type="checkbox"/> Bandage <input type="checkbox"/> Waste collection container <input type="checkbox"/> Pen to record collection date, time, and collection site |
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NOTE: If other blood tests are required, always collect blood cultures first.