

Obtaining Blood Specimens from a Central Venous Catheter or PICC

Purpose	The purpose of this procedure is to provide guidelines for the safe and aseptic sampling of the resident's blood from a central or PICC line.
Preparation	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Determine if a physician's order is necessary for this procedure.2. Review the resident's care plan to assess for any special needs of the resident.3. Assemble the equipment and supplies as needed.
General Guidelines	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Blood specimen collection may be drawn:<ol style="list-style-type: none">a. peripherally via venipuncture;b. from a peripheral vascular access device at the time of insertion; orc. from a central venous catheter or a peripherally inserted central catheter (PICC).2. A syringe barrel size of 10 ml or greater shall be used when flushing any VAD/CVAD to avoid excessive pressure and potential rupture of the catheter, and/or dislodgment of clots.
Equipment and Supplies	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Sterile gloves;2. Collection tubes;3. Syringes;4. Injection/access port caps;5. Flush solutions (10 ml 0.9% preservative-free sodium chloride (2 vials)) or heparin (10u-100u/ml vials [amount determined per pharmacy or facility protocol]), if appropriate;6. Labels;7. Transport containers; and8. 70 % alcohol swabs.
Assessment	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Review physician's order.2. Assess the condition of the resident.
Steps in the Procedure	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Explain the procedure to resident and/or family.2. Perform hand antisepsis.3. Put on gloves.4. Put on mask, as indicated.5. Discontinue all infusions to the central venous catheter.6. Flush the line with 5-10 ml of 0.9% sodium chloride.7. Draw blood specimen (use port designated for blood specimens or use distal lumen, if accessing a multi-lumen catheter).<ol style="list-style-type: none">a. Clamp catheter.b. Remove and discard injection/access port.c. Disinfect catheter hub with alcohol swab.d. Attach 5 cc syringe to catheter hub.e. Unclamp catheter.

continues on next page

Steps in the Procedure (continued)

- f. Withdraw blood (1½ to 2 times the fill volume of the central venous line) and discard in appropriate container.
- g. Re-clamp catheter.
- h. Remove syringe and discard in appropriate container.
- i. Attach second syringe to catheter hub.
- j. Unclamp catheter.
- k. Withdraw desired amount of blood, changing syringes as necessary.
- l. Re-clamp catheter and remove syringe.
- m. Cleanse catheter hub with alcohol.
- n. Attach new injection/access port.
- o. Unclamp catheter.
- p. Flush with 20cc of sterile saline.
- q. Transfer blood to collection tubes.
8. Discard used supplies.
9. Label specimen tube with:
 - a. resident's name;
 - b. resident's medical record number or ID;
 - c. date and time specimen was collected; and
 - d. access site from which the specimen was obtained.
10. Label specimen tube with BIOHAZARD label and send to the lab in sealed container. (**Note:** Check with lab to determine if specimen requires ice, etc.)
11. Remove gloves and perform hand antisepsis.
12. Document procedure in the resident's medical record.

Documentation

The following information should be recorded in the resident's medical record:

1. The date and time of the specimen collection.
2. The site of the specimen collection.
3. The amount of blood obtained.
4. The condition of the resident.
5. Resident's response to the procedure.
6. Laboratory results and actions taken.
7. Notification of the physician, if any.
8. The signature and title of the person recording the data.

Reporting

1. Notify the supervisor if the resident refuses the procedure.
2. Report other information in accordance with facility policy and professional standards of practice.