TITLE: Peripheral Blood Cultures: Standard Work

DOCUMENT TYPE: Standard Work:
REFERENCE NUMBER: 14281

ST. LOUIS
Children's
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BJC HealthCare

EXCLUSIONS

NA

STANDARD WORK STATEMENT

Standard work for peripheral blood culture collection.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

NA

	Symbols for Key Points:		
	Safety	Tip	Critical Step
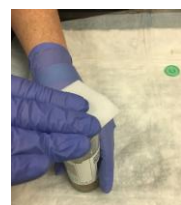
Major Steps (What)	Key Points (How)	Reasons (Why & References)	Photos or Visual Aids
1. Identify patient and print labels	Use PPID process	[Safety] Ensures you have the right patient.	
2. Place mask on all people in the room (including patient if clinically appropriate)		Helps decrease the risk of contamination.	
3. Wipe down all surfaces of the cart or Mayo stand	• Inpatient: Use purple Super Sani-Cloth wipes • Outpatient lab: use gray wipes.	Ensures surface area is as clean as possible to prevent contamination.	
4. Gather and set up supplies	• Set up supplies immediately prior to drawing blood. • Do not leave opened supplies unattended. • Do not take caps off of cultures bottles until blood is obtained.	[Tip][Safety] Ensures sterility of supplies and decreases likelihood of contamination. Yellow colored bottoms of bottles indicate contamination. Discard and obtain new set of culture bottles.	

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5.	Wash hands and don gloves immediately prior to procedure	▽ Use alcohol foam or soap & water.	✚ Decreases risk of contamination from healthcare worker's hands.	
6.	Prepare Site	• If inserting PIV, clean with chlorhexidine wipe and inject buffered lidocaine prior to scrubbing with Chloraprep sponge. • Scrub site with Chloraprep sponge for 30 seconds and allow 30 seconds dry time. • In patients less than 30 weeks gestational age, betadine should be used instead of chlorhexidine. • If obtaining sample from scalp use betadine instead of chlorhexidine.	▽ Dry time is critical for chlorhexidine to be effective.	
7.	Obtain blood specimen	• Perform venipuncture using butterfly or insert PIV (if ordered). • Obtain 1 mL per year of age up to age 20 years. Maximum volume is 10mL per bottle. • If patient is less than 1 year of age draw 1 mL or minimum of 0.5mL. • Place specimen(s) on clean workspace.	▽ Blood cultures CAN NOT be obtained from a previously placed PIV.	
8.	Use of the blood transfer device in filling blood culture bottles	• Remove caps of blood culture bottles and wipe with alcohol pad • Remove insert of blood transfer device by grasping lower flange, giving a slight twist and pulling outward.	☺ **Bottles will not fit into blood transfer device if insert not removed** ✚ **To avoid needle stick do not place finger inside blood transfer device.**	

	• If additional labs are to obtained, place insert on clean workspace • Attach syringe containing blood to blood transfer device. • Blood cultures must be inoculated prior to other lab specimens. • Inoculate the green bottle and then the orange bottle ⚠ The entire volume will transfer if you do not control plunger of syringe.		

BLOOD VOLUME	ALLOCATION
≤ 0.5 mL	Place entire contents into green bottle.
0.6 ml to 20 mL	Divide equally between green and orange bottles.

	• Replace insert into transfer device if more samples are to be distributed and inoculate additional tube(s).		
9. Label and confirm specimen	Follow PPID procedure. DO NOT place patient label over needed bar codes on blood culture bottle. ⚠ **See label placement guide as shown**	✚ Ensures the correct specimens are sent on th e correct patient.	
10. Send specimen to lab	• Place in biohazard bag • Send in pneumatic tube		

DEFINITIONS

NA

RELATED POLICIES, STANDARDS, DOCUMENTS
NA

REFERENCES
NA

APPENDIX
NA