

# Obtaining Blood Specimens from a Central Venous Catheter or PICC

<b>Purpose</b>	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. This will only be completed by licensed staff.
<b>Preparation</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Determine if a physician's order is necessary for this procedure.</li><li>2. Review the resident's care plan to assess for any special needs of the resident.</li><li>3. Assemble the equipment and supplies as needed.</li></ol>
<b>General Guidelines</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Blood specimen collection may be drawn:<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>a. peripherally via venipuncture;</li><li>b. from a peripheral vascular access device at the time of insertion; or</li><li>c. from a central venous catheter or a peripherally inserted central catheter (PICC).</li></ol></li><li>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.</li></ol>
<b>Equipment and Supplies</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Sterile gloves;</li><li>2. Collection tubes;</li><li>3. Syringes;</li><li>4. Injection/access port caps;</li><li>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;</li><li>6. Labels;</li><li>7. Transport containers; and</li><li>8. 70 % alcohol swabs.</li></ol>
<b>Assessment</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Review physician's order.</li><li>2. Assess the condition of the resident.</li></ol>
<b>Steps in the Procedure</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Perform hand antisepsis.</li><li>2. Don gloves.</li><li>3. Don mask, as indicated.</li><li>4. Discontinue all infusions to the central venous catheter.</li><li>5. Flush the line with 5-10 ml of 0.9% sodium chloride.</li><li>6. 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"><li>a. Clamp catheter.</li><li>b. Remove and discard injection/access port.</li><li>c. Disinfect catheter hub with alcohol swab.</li><li>d. Attach 5 cc syringe to catheter hub.</li><li>e. Unclamp catheter.</li></ol></li></ol>

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**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 5-10 ml 0.9% sodium chloride.
- q. Transfer blood to collection tubes.
- 7. Discard used supplies.
- 8. 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.
- 9. 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.)
- 10. Remove gloves and perform hand antisepsis.
- 11. 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.

<b>References</b>	
<b>MDS (RAPs)</b>	K5a, K6, P1c, P8 (RAP # 12, RAP # 14)
<b>Survey Tag Numbers</b>	F328
<b>Related Documents</b>	Intravenous Therapy: Preventing Catheter-Related Infections
<b>Risk of Exposure</b>	Blood–Body Fluids–Infectious Diseases
<b>Procedure Revised</b>	Date: <u>9-11-2017</u> By: _____ Date: _____ By: _____