



Blood Culture Collection Guide



STEP ONE

Clean the top of the blood culture bottle with an alcohol prep pad.

Apply friction for 15 seconds.

Let dry.

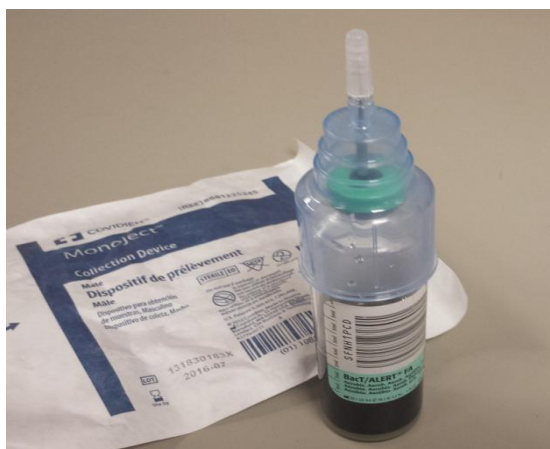


STEP TWO

Clean the venipuncture site by scrubbing the skin for **30 seconds using a back and forth motion** with Chlorhexidine skin prep product.

Allow 30 seconds for the area to dry. (Do not wipe the solution away.)

NEVER re-palpate the vein directly over the insertion site. If this is necessary, you must re-cleanse the site.



STEP THREE

When using a butterfly/syringe system use an angel wing needleless transfer device to inoculate blood culture bottles.



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You **MUST** assess the amount of blood that has been collected and consult the collection chart to provide each culture device with the recommended volumes. **Document the amount of blood in each bottle, location of draw** (i.e. 8 mls, Right AC). If you have an order for blood cultures (X2) or more you will:

- Draw each set of blood cultures from a different site.
- You may use the same site if no other site is available with **a separate draw, 15 minutes apart.**

Adults (Age 10 and older)

Test Requested	Bottle Required	Optimal Volume	Minimum Volume
Blood Culture	GREEN BacT/Alert (Aerobic)	10 mL	5 mL
	PURPLE BacT/Alert (Anaerobic)	10 mL	5 mL
Note: The BacT/Alert Fan adult system includes 2 bottles; one aerobic and one anaerobic. Both bottles should be used whenever possible. If unable to obtain enough volume for both bottles use only the green aerobic bottle.			
Isolator Culture for: Bacteria, Legionella, Fungus, AFB	ISOLATOR TUBE BacT/Alert (yellow tube)	10 mL	6 mL
Note: A different isolator tube is required for each different type of test. For example if an order is received for a Bacteria and AFB two isolator tubes must be collected. Any time an AFB is ordered it MUST have its own isolator tube.			
Blood Culture - Brucella	GREEN BacT/Alert (Aerobic)	10 mL	5 mL

Pediatrics (Age 9 and younger) - Volume is "Age plus 1" for mL

Age	Bottle Required	Minimum Volume
Birth – 1 year	YELLOW BacT/Alert (Peds bottle)	1 mL
1 year	YELLOW BacT/Alert (Peds bottle)	2 mL
2 years	YELLOW BacT/Alert (Peds bottle)	3 mL
3 years	YELLOW BacT/Alert (Peds bottle)	4 mL
4 years	GREEN BacT/Alert (Aerobic)	5 mL
5 years	GREEN BacT/Alert (Aerobic)	6 mL
6 years	GREEN BacT/Alert (Aerobic)	7 mL
7 years	GREEN BacT/Alert (Aerobic)	8 mL
8 years	GREEN BacT/Alert (Aerobic)	9 mL
9 years	GREEN BacT/Alert (Aerobic)	10 mL

For extremely difficult draws, a yellow pediatric bottle, regardless of patient's age, can be collected. This should only occur in rare situations and the minimum volume is 1 mL.