

## **Serous or Synovial Fluid**

## Collection Procedure

- 1. Put on gloves.
- 2. Cleanse the puncture site.
  - Use a 70% alcohol pad to clean in a circular area over the site, using strokes from inside to outside for a diameter of 2 to 3 inches.
  - Crush the capsule of a ChloraPrep. Clean the area with a ChloraPrep using a back and forth scrubbing motion. Scrub for 30 seconds.
  - Allow ChloraPrep to dry for 30 seconds.
- 3. Perform the puncture using a sterile needle and syringe.
- 4. Submit fluid in a lavender-top/liquid EDTA tube for Cell Count and Differential.
- 5. For all other testing, submit fluid in a sterile container.
- 6. Transport immediately to the laboratory.