

## Longs Peak Hospital Blood Culture Collection Guide











Draw 2 blood culture bottles; 1 aerobic, 1 anaerobic OR 1 pediatric pink bottle

- Remove caps from culture bottles and disinfect the tops of the culture bottles with alcohol prep pads. Remove disinfecting pads when finished.
  - o Optimal blood draw volume is 20cc. 10cc for each aerobic/anaerobic culture bottle and 4mL for a pediatric bottle
  - o To ensure addition of optimal volume, mark with a pen where the ruled lines on the bottle show 10 mL above the liquid media level. Fill to this mark.
  - o If unable to obtain 20cc, fill in this order: 1) pediatric bottle if <5 mLs collected 2) aerobic bottle 5-10 mL 3) remainder in anaerobic bottle
- Write site, initials, time, and volume of draw on label. Do not cover bar code label on bottles
- Do not cover the window with the ruled lines (Lab needs to be able to ensure proper blood amounts are in the bottles.)
- Place labels vertically as in 4<sup>th</sup> photo above

## **VENIPUNCTURE w/NO CENTRAL LINE (2 CULTURES):**

- Scrub proposed site of venipuncture with ChloraPrepTM for 30-60 seconds using a frictional back and forth motion
- Allow to air dry naturally for 30-60 seconds prior to venipuncture
- Do not re-palpate the prepared site this may contaminate the culture
- Cultures obtained from the same site must be collected 5 minutes apart; if from different sites they may be collected at the same time
- 2 labels print for each culture set. Ensure two identifiers are verified prior to fixing labels to the specimen

## **CENTRAL LINE + PERIPHERAL STICK (2 CULTURES) OR 2 CENTRAL LINE DRAWS:**

- Remove current central line cap from line. Scrub the open port with alcohol.
   Attach new cap to lumen using proper sterile technique
- Disinfect new central line cap with alcohol for 30 seconds. Wait 30 seconds for alcohol to air dry
- Attach 10-20cc luer lock syringe to new cap. Waste 10 mL. Aspirate blood for culture collection
- Attach red access transfer device to blood-filled syringe and transfer blood.
   Allow proper volume of blood to flow passively into each bottle. Do not force blood into bottles
- Wait at least 5 minutes before obtaining a second culture set from the same line.
- 2 labels print for each culture set. Ensure two identifiers are verified prior to fixing labels to the specimen