

## Blood Culture Collection Guidelines

### Collection Steps:

1. Select all needed supplies
2. Label bottles with patient information
3. Prepare venipuncture site with skin prep
  - Scrub for 30 seconds and let dry
4. Check bottles for damage, leakage, or deterioration. Do not use if either condition exists or if the bottle exhibits turbidity, a yellow sensor, or excess gas pressure.
5. Wipe bottle tops with alcohol
6. Identify optimal volume on bottle
7. Draw blood
8. Dispose of collection device in sharps container
9. Place bottles in a biohazard bag
10. Send inoculated bottles to the lab



### BACT/ALERT® VIRTUO® Blood Culture Bottle Label Placement

Place patient labels in the area indicated in **green** ONLY for ideal blood level detection performance. **Red** areas are not appropriate for label placement.

### Key Points:

1. It is very important that the label does not cover the bar code or the fill volume window.
2. A set of blood culture bottles consists of an aerobic and an anaerobic bottle. There should only be one accession /order number per set.
3. Pediatric bottles should not be used on adult patients due to volume requirements.



Questions? Call Lab Customer Service at 615-875-5227 (5-LABS)