

NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH
WARREN GRANT MAGNUSON CLINICAL CENTER
NURSING DEPARTMENT

PROCEDURE: Venipuncture

Approved:

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1. **EQUIPMENT**

- a. Winged infusion set
- b. alcohol pads
- c. chlorhexidine and alcohol applicator (1.5 mL) if blood sampling is for blood culture
- d. Sterile gauze
- e. Tourniquet
- f. Tape
- g. Vacutainer needle adapter and holder
- h. Specimen tubes
- i. Patient labels
- j. MIS laboratory transmittal sheets
- k. Disposable gloves
- l. Appropriate precaution labels (if required)
- m. Plastic bags
- n. Band-Aid (optional)
- o. Triple stopcock (optional)
- p. Syringe(s) with 1 mL lock solution (for intermittent device)
- q. Adult population without coagulopathies: 1 mL normal saline
- r. Other populations: 1 mL normal saline followed by 1 mL Heparin
- s. Intermittent infusion cap (for intermittent device)

B. STEPS	KEY POINTS
2. Label specimen tubes.	
3. Complete a bilateral vein assessment.	Avoid extremities involving amputation, mastectomy, dialysis shunts, or other implants
4. If using a tourniquet, apply it 2-4 inches above venipuncture site.	
5. Cleanse skin with alcohol pad using a bidirectional scrub. Allow to dry.	Chlorhexidine and alcohol is used when blood cultures are being obtained.
<p>6. Insertion of winged infusion set:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Insert needle bevel up into selected vein. b. Stabilize needle. <p>OR</p> <p>7. Use of intermittent device:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Cleanse the intermittent infusion cap with alcohol and allow to dry. b. Insert syringe; aspirate 1-mL blood, and discard. c. Cleanse the intermittent infusion cap with alcohol and allow to dry. d. Collect specimen using vacutainer or appropriately sized syringe e. If syringe used, transfer blood to specimen tubes. f. Remove tourniquet. 	
8. If venipuncture done, apply pressure to site for at least 1 full minute.	Thrombocytopenic patients require pressure to site for at least 5 minutes.
9. If intermittent device used, inject device with lock solution(s) and apply new cap.	

