

Instructions for At-Home Blood Collection Fingerstick Collection

COLLECTION

- A. Wash hands and put on gloves
- B. Select and warm collection site with hospital approved manufactured warmer
- C. Have all equipment ready prior to unwrapping the finger.
- D. Cleanse with 70% isopropyl alcohol.
- E. Dry with 2x2 gauze.
- F. Pull tab off lancet.
- G. Position finger; see illustration attached.
 - 1. Select ring or middle finger
 - 2. Rest patient finger across your fingers, using your thumb as the pressure of the 'squeeze' on top of their finger.
 - 3. Place hand in a position where it is lower than the heart so as to increase blood flow.
- H. Place lancet across the fingerprint with moderate pressure; see illustration attached.
- I. Push the trigger down firmly.
- J. Wipe away first drop of blood.
- K. Squeeze the finger gently
 - 1. Release between squeezes to permit blood to flow back into the finger. (squeeze, relax, squeeze, relax)
 - 2. Wipe firmly with 2x2 gauze if blood flow decreases. DO NOT USE ALCOHOL WIPES.
- L. Collect blood into a microtainer tube
 - 1. Touch the bead droplet to the edge of the microtainer tube lid/scoop
 - 2. Allow blood to flow into the tube.
 - 3. Mix microtainer tube gently while collecting, then again after putting the lid on the tube.
 - 4. Do not scoop blood up the side of the finger. This can damage to the red blood cells and may cause the blood to funnel down the finger.
- M. Complete collection and apply pressure with 2x2 gauze to stop bleeding.
- N. Apply band-aid if appropriate.

LABELING SPECIMEN

- A. Label each tube with the following:
 - 1. Patient's first and last name,
 - 2. MR# or date of birth,
 - 3. Date and time of collection.
- B. Place tube(s) in biohazard bag and seal
- C. Place orders in outside pocket of biohazard bag.

ORDER OF DRAW – if multiple tubes, collect in this order

- 1. Purple
- 2. Special RED microtainer for Coagulation tests
- 3. Green
- 4. Red/yellow

MAILING SAMPLES

- A. Place biohazard sticker on outside of mailing envelope.
- B. Make sure all tubes are properly labeled.
- C. Requisition must be mailed in with samples.

PROPER COLLECTION SITE AND POSITION

