To help reduce hemolysis, remember:

+ If a tourniquet is used, make sure it is placed properly and time applied is appropriate (maximum 1 minute)
+ Use an extension set per your facility’s policies and procedures
+ Avoid over-manipulation of the catheter hub
+ Be sure device is securely fastened before blood draw begins
+ Draw waste tube per your facility’s policies and procedures
+ Follow correct order of draw and allow tubes to fill completely

CAUTION: Handle all biologic samples and blood collection “sharps” (lancets, needles, luer adapters, and blood collection sets) in accordance with the policies and procedures of your facility. Obtain appropriate medical attention in the event of any exposure to biologic samples (e.g., through a puncture injury) since samples may transmit viral hepatitis, HIV (AIDS), or other infectious diseases. Utilize any safety-engineered feature if the blood collection device provides one. Discard all blood collection “sharps” in biohazard containers approved for their disposal.
When using a syringe for blood collection, remember:

1. Do not use a needle to transfer
2. Use an appropriate size syringe, (3-10 mL preferred)
3. Do not exceed 1 mL of dead space in syringe; excessive force on plunger may cause hemolysis
4. Transfer immediately to avoid unwanted blood clotting
5. Follow correct order of draw and allow tubes to fill completely
6. Do not press plunger to force blood into tubes; allow vacuum to gently draw sample into tube

To learn more about the full product offering of BD Vacutainer® Specimen Collection Products or the educational materials and services offered by BD Diagnostics–Preanalytical Systems, please contact your local BD Sales Consultant.

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