Successful Specimen Collection: Fingersticks

Recommended Procedure with the BD Microtainer® Microcollection System

Instructions for Use

1. Assemble materials
   • Gloves
   • Appropriate warming device
   • 70% isopropyl alcohol pads or BD Vacutainer® Alcohol Swabs
   • BD Microtainer® Contact-Activated Lancets
   • BD Microtainer® Tubes or Glucose strips
   • The appropriate BD Microtainer® Contact-Activated Lancet that will provide the amount of blood necessary to perform the required tests

2. Wash hands thoroughly and put on gloves

3. Warm the site
   Use a warm, moist towel or other appropriate warming device (not more than 40°C/105°F) for three minutes.

4. Select the site
   The patient should be sitting or lying down. Have patient hold their hand in a downward position, allowing gravity to help increase blood supply to the hand. Select finger: middle or ring finger is preferable. The fifth finger must not be punctured because the tissue depth is insufficient to prevent bone injury. Identify the desired puncture site (shaded area).

5. Disinfect the site: AIR DRY
   Cleanse the puncture site using an alcohol pad and according to your facility’s established procedure. The site must be allowed to air dry in order to provide effective disinfection, and to prevent possible hemolysis or erroneous results from residual alcohol.

6. Remove the protective tab
   Twist off the tab to break the seal and discard.

Collection Tips

See the CLSI guidelines for recommendations for the collection of diagnostic capillary blood specimens. *

7. Perform the puncture
   Position the safety lancet firmly against the puncture site as illustrated. Hold lancet between fingers. To activate, press safety lancet firmly against the puncture site. Do not remove the device from the site until an audible click is heard.

8. Discard used safety lancet into a sharps container according to your facility’s established procedures

9. Collect the specimen
   A. For glucose testing:
      Squeeze gently going along finger capillaries up to the puncture site.
   B. For blood collection:
      Gently apply intermittent pressure along finger capillaries up to the puncture site. Hold hand below elbow level to obtain the required blood volume. Strong repetitive pressure (milking) must be avoided; it may cause hemolysis or tissue-fluid contamination of the specimen. *
      Wipe away the first drop of blood with a sterile gauze pad, as this drop may contain an excess of tissue fluids that could cause erroneous test results. Turn the patient’s hand palm down.
      Position the BD Microtainer® Tube directly beneath the puncture site. Apply gentle, intermittent pressure along finger capillaries to allow them to refill with blood and to help ensure continuous blood flow. Apply gentle pressure at the ends of the puncture site, opening the puncture slightly, to maximize blood flow.
      Note: If using the BD Microtainer® Tube with BD Microgard™ Closure, allow first several drops to fall on one another in order to form a continuous channel. Mix tubes according to manufacturer’s recommendations.

10. Complete the procedure
    Wipe the site dry and apply direct pressure with a sterile gauze pad until the bleeding has stopped.
    Dispose all used materials according to your facility’s established procedures.
    Label the tubes and transport them to the lab for processing.

Ordering Information

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<tr>
<th>BD Microtainer® Contact-Activated Lancet Ordering Information</th>
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For more information:
BD Global Technical Services: 1.800.631.0174
vacutainer_techservices@bd.com
BD Customer Service: 1.888.237.2762
www.bd.com/vacutainer

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” into biohazard containers approved for their disposal.

* CLSI 2004 Doc. H4-A5 Vol. 24, No. 21

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