

Objective

To perform blood collection correctly, ensuring collection of suitable specimens with no injury or distress.

To be taught by registered nurse.

Equipment needed:

Bowl of warm water/ warm moist towel

Alcohol wipe

Microtainers and tops for requested samples

Plaster

Non sterile gloves

Sterile gauze

Appropriate lancet



Method:

- Explanation to child /parent
- Set up equipment for use
- Warm hand – warmth increases circulation
- Wash and dry hands.- apply gloves
- Select site – sides of tip of finger – preferably 3rd or 4th finger (middle & ring)
- Disinfect the site and allow to dry
- Using lancet puncture the skin (hold lancet firmly against the chosen site activating with your index finger)
- Remove lancet and dispose appropriately
- Wipe away first drop of blood with sterile gauze (the 1st drop may contain excess tissue fluids or skin cells which could alter the test result)

- Blood should then flow freely - collecting into microtainer- gentle intermittent pressure may be applied to the site – opens the puncture site slightly and allows the capillaries to refill helping a continuous flow. Touching a drop of blood may help flow into a tube.
- Once required amount of blood is obtained – place the lid on the tube and gently invert several times.
- Apply gauze to site and press firmly until bleeding has stopped.
- Apply a plaster
- Label tubes with name, number, date and time. – send to lab.(within 4 hours)

