

Venipuncture Guidelines

1. Assemble all supplies necessary to perform the venipuncture.
2. Wear proper safety equipment.
3. Identify the patient.
4. Apply tourniquet above the pre-selected venipuncture site.
5. Cleanse the selected venipuncture site with alcohol or other approved cleansing agent.
6. Allow the area to air dry.
7. Anchor the vein.
8. Perform venipuncture with needle bevel side up.
9. Collect the specimen utilizing syringe or vacuum tube type system.
10. Release tourniquet after successful venous access.
11. Remove the needle from the site, activating the safety device for the needle.
12. Immediately apply pressure to the site with a gauze pad or cotton ball.
13. Apply a bandage if applicable, after the bleeding has stopped.
14. Label all specimens according to established protocol.