

SOP 2.5 Blood Collection - Venipuncture

SOP Number: 2.5
Version Number 1.0

	Name	Title	Date
Author			
Authoriser			

Effective Date	
Version Number	

Purpose

This SOP describes the procedure for blood collection (venipuncture) from research participants.

Responsibility

It is the responsibility of the research personnel carrying out this procedure to ensure that all steps are completed both competently and safely.

Procedure

1. The research participant's arm will be hyperextended and positioned comfortably on the arm-rest of the venipuncture chair / couch as appropriate.
2. The tourniquet will be applied 3-4 inches above the selected puncture site and will not be left in position for longer than two minutes.
3. The research participant will be asked to make a fist without pumping the hand.
4. A vacuum collection system (for example Monovette) will be used for venipuncture where possible. Syringes and needles will be used in place of the vacuum collection system in special circumstances.
5. The puncture site will be cleansed using a Sterets pre-injection swab in a circular motion from the centre to the periphery.
6. The cleansed site will be allowed to air dry prior to venipuncture.

7. The research participant's vein will be anchored and the needle will then be inserted through the skin, bevel edge uppermost, into the lumen of the vein.
8. The tourniquet will be released when the last collection tube to be drawn is filling.
9. Tubes containing anticoagulants must be properly mixed immediately after each is drawn by inverting the tube. See manufacturer instructions for number of inversions required.
10. Clean dry gauze or cotton wool will be placed on the venipuncture site and the needle will be removed in a swift backward motion using a needle protector.
11. The research personnel will press down on the gauze/cotton wool once the needle has been drawn out of the vein applying adequate pressure to avoid formation of a haematoma.
12. The research participants arm will not be placed in a bent position at any time following venipuncture.
13. The research participants arm will be inspected to ensure bleeding has stopped and a band-aid strip will be applied.
14. The research personnel will ensure that the research participant has not experienced any adverse events from the venipuncture and will then assist them from the chair.
15. All contaminated materials/supplies will be disposed of in the designated containers.
16. All blood collection tubes will be labelled immediately following collection with the appropriate research study labels, for example a unique study identification number and /or bar code label. The time of collection will also be recorded in the study specific documentation and/or data management system.
17. The research personnel will arrange for the blood specimens to be transported to the research laboratory as applicable.

Safety precaution: During collection it is important to avoid possible backflow from blood collection tubes that contain chemical additives, for example BD Vacutainer CPT which may result in the possibility of an adverse patient reaction. The following precautions should be observed;

- Use a blood collection set with a safety lock for example; a BD Vacutainer® Safety-Lok™ Blood Collection Set.
- Place arm in a downward position
- Hold tube with stopper upper-most
- Release tourniquet as soon as blood starts to flow into the tube
- Ensure that tube additives do not touch the stopper or the end of the needle during venipuncture

Change History

SOP Number	Effective Date	Significant Change	Previous SOP No.