

Blood culture collection made safe and easy

Skin Preparation:

1. Locate venipuncture site.
2. Scrub venipuncture site with 70% alcohol for a minimum of 30 seconds.
3. Apply 1–2% tincture of iodine for 30 seconds in concentric circles away from the puncture site, covering a circular area of 1 1/2 to 2 inches in diameter. (Iodine-sensitive patients use 70% alcohol only for 60 seconds.)
4. Allow the puncture site to air dry before venipuncture.



Bottle Preparation:

1. Visually inspect all bottles for contamination, cracks or other signs of deterioration. Do NOT use bottles that appear to be turbid or damaged.
2. Disinfect the top of the bottle stopper with 70% alcohol or iodine solution (10% povidone-iodine). Do NOT use iodine.
3. Allow disinfectant to set for 1 minute.
4. Remove any residual disinfectant with sterile gauze before injection of blood into bottle.



Venipuncture and Bottle Inoculation

Option 1: Needle and Syringe

1. Assemble the sterile needle and syringe or use a sterile needle-syringe combination.
2. Perform the venipuncture and withdraw 5–10mL of blood per bottle to be cultured.
3. Directly inoculate VersaTREK bottles from the syringe by puncturing the bottle septum with the needle and syringe.



Venipuncture and Bottle Inoculation (cont.)

Option 2: Blood Culture Device

1. If the blood collection set does not contain a blood collection holder, place the holder onto the blood collection set.
2. Perform the venipuncture, allowing the blood to reach the end of the stopper-puncturing needle.
3. Puncture the bottle septum with the needle. Loosen the tourniquet as soon as blood starts to flow.
4. Fill the bottle to the designated volume guides on the bottle label.
5. Remove needle from patient's arm and discard in an approved biohazard SHARPS container.



Option 3: Direct Draw

Please refer to the VersaTREK EZ Draw[®] Sell Sheet for instruction.



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