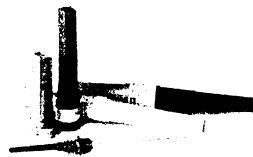


Blood Collection Needles



Intended use:

VACUETTE® Blood Collection Needles are designed for use in the daily blood collection routine when delegated by a qualified practitioner. They are for single-use only and should only be used by adequately trained healthcare personnel in accordance with these instructions.

Product Description:

VACUETTE® Blood Collection Needles are manufactured from stainless steel and are fitted with a safety valve at one end. The perforated label not only serves to simplify identification, but also acts as a seal of integrity. VACUETTE® Blood collection needles are a sterile single-use product.

Specimen Collection and Handling

Equipment Required for Specimen Collection:

Ensure that the following materials are readily accessible before performing venipuncture:

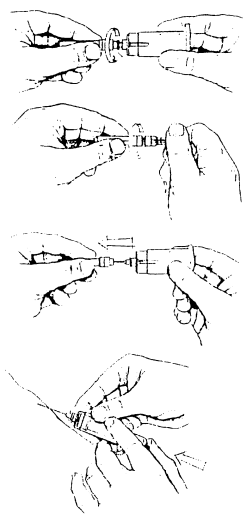
1. VACUETTE® Tubes
2. Labels for patient identification of samples.
3. VACUETTE® Blood Collection Needle and Holder.
NOTE: VACUETTE® Blood Collection Needles are designed for optimal use with holders from Greiner Bio-One. The use of holders from other manufacturers is the responsibility of the user.
4. Practice general safety precautions, using gloves and appropriate apparel for protection against exposure to bloodborne pathogens.
5. Alcohol swab or similar for cleansing site.
6. Dry sterile gauze
7. Tourniquet
8. Adhesive plaster or bandage
9. Needle disposal container for safe disposal of used needles.

Colour coding of VACUETTE® Blood Collection Needles:		
Description	G / Diameter	Length
Needle black	22G / 0.7mm	25mm
Needle black	22G / 0.7mm	38mm
Needle green	21G / 0.8mm	25mm
Needle green	21G / 0.8mm	38mm
Needle yellow	20G / 0.9mm	25mm
Needle yellow	20G / 0.9mm	38mm

General Instructions for Venipuncture Technique and Specimen Collection:

WEAR GLOVES DURING VENIPUNCTURE AND WHEN HANDLING BLOOD COLLECTION TUBES TO MINIMISE EXPOSURE HAZARD!

1. Remove the cover from the valve section of the needle.
NOTE: The perforated label not only serves to simplify identification, but is also an indicator of sterility and intactness. In the case of the perforations being broken or damaged, dispose of the needle and select another intact one.
2. Thread the needle perpendicularly into the holder. Ensure the needle is firmly seated so that it does not unthread during use.
NOTE: Angled threading of the needle into the holder can result in damage to the thread of the holder and needle and can cause the needle to loosen during venipuncture.
3. Select the puncture site. Apply the tourniquet (max. 1 minute) Prepare the venipuncture site with appropriate antiseptic.
DO NOT PALPATE THE VENIPUNCTURE AREA AFTER CLEANSING!
4. Place the patient's arm in a downward position. Remove the needle shield. Perform the venipuncture, with the patient's arm downward and the tube cap upper-most.
5. Push the tube into the holder and onto the needle valve puncturing the rubber diaphragm. Centre tubes in the holder when penetrating the cap to prevent sidewall penetration and subsequent premature vacuum loss.
6. REMOVE THE TOURNIQUET AS SOON AS BLOOD APPEARS IN THE TUBE. DO NOT ALLOW THE CONTENTS OF THE TUBE TO CONTACT THE CAP OR THE END OF THE NEEDLE DURING THE PROCEDURE. i.e. under no circumstances should the tube be turned upside down during the procedure.



Always hold in place by pressing the tube with the thumb to ensure complete vacuum draw.

NOTE: Blood may occasionally leak from the needle sleeve. Practice universal safety precautions to minimise hazard exposure.

7. Place succeeding tubes in the holder. Ensure that the contents of the tube do not come into contact with the cap or the needle tip during blood collection.
8. As soon as blood stops flowing into the last tube, carefully remove the needle from the vein, applying pressure to the puncture site with a dry sterile swab until bleeding stops.
9. Once clotting has occurred, apply an adhesive plaster or bandage if desired.
NOTE: After venipuncture the top of the cap may contain residual blood. Take proper precautions when handling tubes to avoid contact with this blood.
10. Dispose of the used needle with holder in an appropriate disposal device. **DO NOT RECAP!** Recapping of needles increases the risk of needle stick injury.




Storage of VACUETTE® Blood Collection Needles prior use:

Recommended storage temperature: <36°C (<97°F).

NOTE: Avoid exposure to direct sunlight. Exceeding the maximum recommended storage temperature may lead to impairment of the VACUETTE® Blood Collection Needle quality.

Precautions:

- The handling of VACUETTE® Blood Collection Needles must be in accordance to the policies and procedures of your facility.
- HBV, HCV, HIV and other infectious diseases can be transmitted through contact with biological samples. In the event of exposure to biological samples, ensure that appropriate medical attention is obtained.
- Discard all VACUETTE® Blood Collection Needles in biohazard containers approved for their disposal.
- Wear gloves during venipuncture and when handling blood collection tubes to minimise exposure hazard.
- Do not use VACUETTE® Blood Collection Needles after their expiry date.

Technical Data	
	Expiry Date: The needle can be used until the end of the month indicated.
	Lot number: Charge number
	Sterile indicator (Sterilisation with Ethylenoxid Gas)

980206 rev.01, Oct.2006

Reference:

Clinical Laboratory Standards Institute CLSI (formerly NCCLS)
H3-A5 Procedures for the Collection of Diagnostic Blood Specimens by Venipuncture; Approved Standard-5th Edition