

Attachment 1:
SOP
Taking blood cultures from inpatients
Internal Medicine – Central Emergency Room – Northwest Hospital

When?

- Before administering **any** anti-infective agent (without delaying it!)
- Suspected systemic infection/sepsis (regardless of fever/chills)
- Unclear fever (≥ 38.0 °C via emergency room measurement)
Suspected catheter, implant, heart valve or port infection

What do I need?

- 1x peripheral indwelling cannula (PIVC/Viggo) or 1x butterfly cannula
- 1x blood culture adapter and 1x multi-adapter
- 2x blood culture pairs (**aerobic/anaerobic**) + 1x pair of disposable gloves + skin antiseptic (e.g. Kodan®)

How many?

- **Always ≥ 2** blood culture pairs (**aerobic/anaerobic**)

How?

1. Hygienic hand disinfection
2. Put on non-sterile disposable gloves
3. Disinfect the puncture membrane of the blood culture bottles and allow to dry
4. Spray the puncture site twice with skin antiseptic and allow to dry (30–60 sec.)
5. Puncture without palpating the puncture site
6. Sampling is performed before regular blood sampling, each blood culture bottle is filled using a blood culture adapter (recommended filling volume at least 8–10 ml of blood) / (for butterfly needles, first aerobic/blue bottle / for pVK-Viggo, order irrelevant)
7. Labeling (patient label, date, time of blood collection, collection site)

Where to take it?

- Transport as quickly as possible, store at room temperature for max. 16 hours, no pre-incubation

References

1. Prävention von Infektionen, die von Gefäßkathetern ausgehen: Hinweise zur Blutkulturdiagnostik. Informativer Anhang 1 zur Empfehlung der Kommission für Krankenhaushygiene und Infektionsprävention (KRINKO) beim Robert Koch-Institut. Bundesgesundheitsblatt Gesundheitsforschung Gesundheitsschutz. 2017 Feb;60(2):216-30. DOI: 10.1007/s00103-016-2485-6
2. Jung N, Rieg S, Lehmann C, editors. Klinikleitfaden Infektiologie 2024. 2nd ed. Munich: Urban & Fischer; 2024.
3. Schulz-Stübner S, editor. Repetitorium Krankenhaushygiene und Infektionsprävention. 3rd ed. Berlin, Heidelberg: Springer; 2022. DOI: 10.1007/978-3-662-65994-6
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