

Blood Drawing, Free-standing lab

Objectives:

Students understand the difference between various sizes of needles and syringes.

Students acquire skill in entering a vein with a needle.

Students are able to safely transfer the blood to tubes or vials.

Students understand the difference between blood draws for clotting and those anti-coagulated.

Students understand the importance of labeling blood specimens properly.

Material: Exam gloves, tourniquets, alcohol or iodine wipes, various sizes of syringes and needles, vials or tubes for blood, tape and pens for labeling, heparin to put in to prevent clotting.

Preparation: None, other than gathering the materials and making sure students wear clothing that can be pulled up above their elbows, to expose their veins.

Student steps:

1. Choose partners.
2. Prepare a syringe and needle.
3. Put on exam gloves.
4. Put on a tourniquet and choose a vein.
5. Clean the chosen vein.
6. Pierce the vein with a needle and withdraw a syringe full of blood.
7. Transfer the blood to a vial or tube. Do not squirt the blood.
8. Label the tube with the person's name, the date, and the time. Indicate if there is heparin or no heparin in the specimen.

Guidelines:

First do a demonstration so students can see how it is done.

Monitor the tourniquets, that they are neither too tight nor too loose, and that they do not stay on too long.

Be sure the students don't squirt the blood forcefully into the tubes or vials.