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| Neonatal Peripheral Blood Culture Collection Checklist |
| **Blood Culture Draw Criteria** |
| Optimally, the blood culture should be drawn prior to the administration of antibiotics.  **Note:** this is a 2-person procedure. |
| **Supplies Needed** |
| Printed patient label for blood culture bottle Pediatric blood culture bottled |
| Alcohol swabs Chlorhexidine swabs |
| Clean gloves Laboratory biohazard transport bag |
| Butterfly needle 3-5 mL syringe |
| Gauze pads bandage or paper tape |
| Tourniquet |
| **Step by Step Procedure** |
| 1. Gather supplies and prepare a clean work surface. |
| 1. Perform hand hygiene and don clean gloves. |
| 1. Apply tourniquet 1 inches above intended insertion site and assess infant’s veins. **Do not leave tourniquet on for more than one minute.** |
| 1. Once a proper vein has been selected, remove tourniquet. |
| 1. Clean the venipuncture site with chlorhexidine for 30 seconds. Scrub the area using a back and forth motion. **Allow to air dry for 30 seconds.** *Do NOT fan or blow on the site. Do NOT touch the intended venipuncture site after preparation.* |
| 1. Prepare butterfly needle with 5 mL syringe attached. |
| 1. Prepare blood culture bottle:    1. Check expiration date.    2. Remove cap & wipe off the septum of bottle with an alcohol pad for 10 seconds. ***(Do not use chlorhexidine).***    3. Rest the alcohol pad on top of the bottle prior to inoculation to avoid airborne contaminants. |
| 1. Reapply tourniquet. |
| 1. Position needle with bevel up. |
| 1. Immobilize vein by pressing 1” to 2” below the venipuncture site with your thumb and drawing the skin taut. |
| 1. Insert needle quickly and smoothly at a 25-30 angle through the skin. |
| 1. Collect approximately 5 mL of blood. |
| 1. After drawing the samples, remove the tourniquet, place a gauze over the puncture site, and activate the needle safety device prior to removing the needle. |
| 1. Attach a blunt needle to the syringe. |
| 1. Remove alcohol pad from bottle and transfer the blood into the bottle. |
| 1. Invert bottle 8-10 times to mix sample. |
| 1. Apply pressure to the puncture site until bleeding stops. Apply gauze and tape or bandage. |
| 1. Discard needle in sharps container and garbage into the garbage receptacle. |
| 1. Remove gloves and perform hand hygiene. |
| 1. Label bottle at the bedside (date, time, site of draw- R or L). Place bottle in biohazard bag and send to lab. |



**Watch the process on you tube: Click on the link or use the QR code**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IL3jAW1Kk9c>