**BacT/ALERT® Blood Culture Collection Procedure**

Septicemia occurs in approximately 200,000 patients each year, and between 30 and 50% of those patients die. Because the consequences of septicemia are so serious, rapid and accurate diagnosis of this disorder is critical. The Blood Culture is the best diagnostic tool for detecting septicemia, and it’s absolutely imperative that the blood specimen be collected properly to provide clinically valuable results.

BacT/ALERT® 3D instruments are automated systems that incubate, shake and monitor culture bottles for signs of microbial growth. Samples from patients suspected for septicemia are inoculated into BacT/ALERT culture bottles for monitoring. The bottles are color-coded for easy identification of media type and are made of plastic for added safety.

1. **Skin Preparation**

   **PDI® Chlorascrub™ Swabstick**
   - After location of the vein, vigorously scrub the venipuncture site with PDI® Chlorascrub™ Swabstick for 30 seconds.1
   - Allow the site to air dry before venipuncture.
   - Do not re-palpate the vein.

2. **Bottle Preparation**

   - Inspect each blood culture bottle before use to ensure integrity of bottle and sensor on bottom of bottle is intact. The sensor is normally a uniform grayish-green color and a yellow color would indicate contamination of the broth. Discard any bottle found to be damaged or with a sensor that is yellow.
   - Remove protective flip top overcap.
   - NOTE: The septum is not sterile and must be disinfected.
   - Cleanse the septum with 70% alcohol.
   - The bottle has been pre-marked with 5ml increments. Mark the desired fill volume level on the bottle for 10ml.
   - Orient additional patient label vertically for scanning efficiency.
   - Do not overfill the bottles, as this may cause false positive readings.
   - Do not place the tourniquet over the vein. When final tube is filled, remove tourniquet.
   - Recommended blood to broth ratio is 1:5 to 1:10. As the volume of blood drawn is increased, the yield of positive cultures increases. Optimaly, 20ml of blood should be drawn from adults (10ml per bottle).
   - When labeling the bottles, do not cover the peel-off section of the barcode labels or the lot numbers.
   - Do not ship the bottles, as this may cause false positive readings.

3. **Venipuncture and Bottle Inoculation**

   **Direct Draw with Blood Collection Set or WorkSafe™ Blood Culture Collection Kit**
   - Collect all necessary materials for a direct draw.
   - After location of the vein, vigorously scrub the venipuncture site with PDI® Chlorascrub™ Swabstick for 30 seconds.
   - Allow the site to air dry before venipuncture.
   - Do not re-palpate the vein.
   - Cleanse the septum with 70% alcohol.
   - The bottle has been pre-marked with 5ml increments. Mark the desired fill volume level on the bottle for 10ml.
   - Orient additional patient label vertically for scanning efficiency.
   - Do not overfill the bottles, as this may cause false positive readings.

4. **时表示器**

   - Place Adapter cap on the aerobic (blue or green label) BacT/ALERT culture bottle septum and press down to penetrate and obtain blood flow. Hold the Adapter Cap down on the bottle.
   - Using the fill indicator lines on the label, obtain 8-10ml of blood. Move the Adapter Cap from the aerobic bottle to the anaerobic (purple or orange label) bottle (if required) and continue the collection.
   - If additional blood is required for other tests, place the Adapter Insert into the Adapter Cap and snap into place. This makes the cap compatible with vacuum collection tubes.
   - When final tube is filled, remove tourniquet. Terminate the venipuncture, activate the safety shield, grab the wing with one hand and slide the wings back until it locks in place.
   - Dispose of wing and adapter cap in a sharps container.

5. **时表示器**

   - Dispose of wing and adapter cap in a sharps container.
   - Label specimens and place in plastic biohazard zip lock bag. Bottles can now be safely transported via pneumatic tube system.