



##

A red number denotes where **Key-parts** or **Key-sites** need protecting.


Preparation zone




1
Disinfect hands
with alcohol hand rub or soap & water




2
Disinfect tray
using a disinfectant wipe[§] - creating a **General Aseptic Field**



3
Gather| equipment
place around tray



4
Prepare equipment
protecting **Key-Parts** with non-touch technique (NTT) & **Micro Critical Aseptic Fields**



5
Disinfect hands
with alcohol hand rub or soap & water^{*}

If **blood is being taken for other tests**, collect the blood culture first. Inoculate the aerobic culture first, hold upright and use bottle graduation lines to accurately gauge sample volumes (at least 10 mL in each bottle or as recommended by manufacturer). Remove bottle and replace with anaerobic bottle, take same volume, and remove bottle.

Because of the large volumes of blood inoculated, a single set of blood cultures should suffice for investigation of most patients. Patients with life-threatening infections or who are suspected of having infective endocarditis may benefit from having two or more sets of cultures taken by separate venepunctures - refer to Trust policy. If patient has a Central Venous Access Device (CVAD) in situ, an additional set of bottles should be inoculated with blood taken through EACH lumen (indicating that this is the case on the request form).

Prepare patient.

Apply disposable tourniquet and palpate vein.

Loosen tourniquet after suitable vein located.

Patient zone



6
Disinfect hands
with alcohol hand rub or soap & water



7
Disinfect skin
using a 2% Chlorhexidine / 70% alcohol applicator, for at least 30 seconds, to clean contour of vein and allow to air-dry. Do not touch the **Key-Site** once decontaminated



8
Disinfect bottle ports
creating friction for 15 seconds with a 2% Chlorhexidine / 70% alcohol wipe[§] using NTT



9
Disinfect hands
with alcohol hand rub or soap & water^{*}



10
Re-apply tourniquet then apply non-sterile gloves
& disposable apron if required



11
Access patient's vein
protecting **Key-Parts** & **Key-Sites** using NTT (if re-palpated re-disinfect the skin), inoculating blood into bottles

Release the tourniquet, remove needle and apply dressing.

If attempt to draw blood is unsuccessful, return to

step **6**

12



Dispose of sharps
& equipment

13



Remove gloves
followed by apron (if either worn) & then immediately ...

14



Disinfect hands
with alcohol hand rub or soap & water^{*}

Decontamination zone

15



Disinfect tray
using a disinfectant wipe[§]

16



Disinfect hands
with alcohol hand rub or soap & water^{*}

[§]Some brands/ types of disinfectant wipes may require gloves to be worn when using. ^{*}After using disinfectant wipes without gloves, we recommend disinfecting hands with soap & water.

