

Glasgow Clinical Trials Unit Standard Operating Procedure

SOP number	17.053	Version	2.0
Title	Blood Samples from a Peripheral Venous Catheter		

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SOP category	17 NHS GG&C Clinical Research Facility – Clinical				
Staff category	Staff Category	R	A	C	I
	Nursing	X			
	Principal Investigator	X			
	Clinical Research Fellow	X			
	GCRF Manager		X		
	GCRF Associate Director				X
Senior R&I Manager				X	

1. Scope

This procedure applies to all staff working within Glasgow Clinical Research Facility (GCRF).

2. Purpose

To describe the procedure used to withdraw blood from a peripheral venous catheter (PVC) ensuring patient and staff safety.

Blood sampling from a PVC is required for participants requiring repeated blood sampling in clinical research studies to minimise the discomfort of repeated venepuncture. This is not routine practice in clinical care and must be done accurately to ensure patient safety and maintain sample integrity.

Staff must complete NHS GG&C venepuncture and cannulation training and also complete competencies before using a PVC for blood sampling unsupervised on study participants.

It is the responsibility of the Principal Investigator to ensure that study-specific procedures are delegated to appropriately qualified and trained members of the research team.

3. Procedures

- Check the study-specific Laboratory Requisition Form to confirm the quantity of blood to be drawn and which type of system and tube are to be used.
- Blood collection tubes or other specimen containers should be labelled as outlined in the study protocol or laboratory manual.
- Participant identification number and tubes should not be prepared for more than one patient at a time.
- Clean and prepare trolley/work area.

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- Prepare all equipment required including all study-specific equipment e.g. blood sample bottles.

Standard equipment required:

- Non sterile gloves and disposable apron
 - Chlorhexidine 2% in 70% IPA wipe
 - Gauze swab
 - Trolley
 - Blood sample bottles and connector
 - 2mls Syringe
 - 10mls Syringe
 - Flushing agent (0.9% Saline)
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- The member of staff should wash their hands in accordance with NHSGGC Prevention and Control of Infection Manual
 - Use protective gloves and aseptic technique during blood sampling.
 - Explain the procedure to the research participant, confirm consent to the procedure and reassure them.
 - Sit ambulatory participants in a comfortable chair or an examination trolley with the extremity from which blood will be drawn supported on a pillow or other support.
 - Clean hub of PVC with Chlorhexidine 2% in 70% IPA wipe and allow to dry for at least 30 seconds
 - Remove 2mls of fluid from the PVC and discard. This is to remove any saline flush that would contaminate the sample.
 - Fill blood sample bottles as required for study.
 - Flush PVC with 0.9% saline to maintain patency.
 - Dispose of all equipment and clinical waste used safely in accordance with the current NHSGGC Waste Management Policy.
 - Hand wash on completion of task according current NHSSS Infection Prevention and Control Manual.
 - N.B. A tourniquet may be used to transiently distend veins prior to blood drawing. Do not leave the tourniquet on the arm longer than necessary as this is uncomfortable and may alter the results of certain lab tests such as serum potassium and some enzyme measurements.

4. Referenced documents

- NHSGGC Waste Management policy
- NHS Services Scotland National Infection Prevention and Control Manual

5. Related documents

None

6. Document history

Version	Date	Description
1.0	04/01/2019	First release
2.0	18/08/2023	Update to SOP template v2.0

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Version	Date	Description
		Addition of RACI matrix Minor admin changes

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