

Blood Culture Collection

Pediatric Blood Culture bottles are to be used only on children under 12 years of age. All adults (12 years & older) are to be collected in the **Aerobic** and **Anaerobic** bottles, only.

On Adults:

1. The best sample is **10 mls** in the **aerobic** bottle and **10 mls** in the **anaerobic** bottle.
2. Always try to put **10 mls** in the **aerobic** bottle, i.e:
 - **11 mls** collected = **10 mls** in **aerobic** & 1 ml in **anaerobic**
 - **12 mls** collected = **10 mls** in **aerobic** & 2 mls in **anaerobic**
 - **18 mls** collected = **10 mls** in **aerobic** & 8 mls in **anaerobic**, etc.
3. If **Less than 10 mls** is collected, (*but more than 5 mls*), put it all in the **aerobic** bottle.
4. If **Less than 5 mls** is collected, *you do not have enough specimen for a blood culture.*

Important Details:

- The aerobic bottle **MUST** have at least 5 mls and up to 10 mls
- An Adult is considered anyone 12 years or older
- Pediatric bottles are only used for patients less than 12 years of age
- Putting less than the minimum requirement of 5 mls in the anaerobic bottle is acceptable in situations as described above

Equipment for Blood Culture Collection:

Collection using Vacutainer Collection System with Safety Needle *or* Butterfly

- Should only be used in the antecubital area
- Use Angel Wing BacT/ALERT Blood Collection Device – Male #96157 as vacutainer holder
- Use with 21 gauge safety needle or butterfly



Collection with Butterfly & Syringe *or* Syringe & Safety Needle

- Use Angel Wing BacT/ALERT Transfer Device – Female #96158 to transfer blood from syringe to bottle
- **Never use a needle to transfer blood from a syringe into a bottle**

