



Health Care

Drawing Blood from IV using blue vacutainer



Flush IV with normal saline



Attempt to draw back after flush. If possible, withdraw at least 3 ml of blood to waste.



If unable to withdraw blood with 10 ml flush, apply tourniquet 3-4 inches above IV, attach 3 ml syringe and pull back. The smaller syringe often allows blood withdrawal where larger one won't.



Never leave a tourniquet cinched for over 1 minute.



Once 3 ml of blood wasted, screw blue tipped vacutainer to Med Zero needless connector.
Vacutainer not recommended on IVs smaller than 22 gauge.



Insert desired tube into vacutainer.



Switch out tubes until ordered specimens are all collected.
Remove and discard vacutainer. Flush IV.