


Specimen Collection – Steripath Blood Collection System for Blood Culture Collections

	Document Classification	<input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Procedure <input type="checkbox"/> Guideline
	Document Type:	<input type="checkbox"/> Administrative <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Clinical
	Applicability:	<input type="checkbox"/> Organization <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hospital <input type="checkbox"/> NMG <input type="checkbox"/> Department Only
Effective Date: 4/29/2024		

Purpose:

To provide written instructions for the proper use of the Steripath Blood Collection System used during blood culture collections.

Target Users:

Clinical Staff responsible for blood culture collections.

Definitions:

N.A.

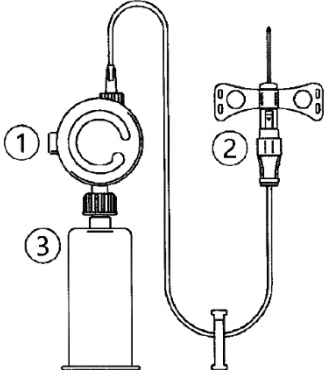
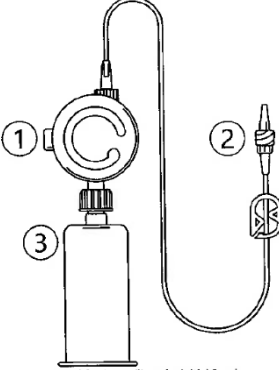
Policy:

The Steripath Blood Collection System will be used to collect blood culture specimens by Laboratory Staff and by clinical staff in patient care units with a risk of higher blood culture contamination rates (such as the Emergency Department).

Policy Provisions:

The Steripath blood collection system diverts 0.5 to 1.0 mL of blood and should not be used on neonates due to a need to minimize the amount of blood being collected.

System Contents:

Venipuncture Collection	IV Catheter Collection
 <p data-bbox="378 667 597 701">Steripath® Micro utilizes the Initial Specimen Diversion Technique® (ISDT™)</p>	 <p data-bbox="889 667 1109 701">Steripath® Micro utilizes the Initial Specimen Diversion Technique® (ISDT™)</p>
<p>1. Steripath Micro Specimen Diversion Device</p>	<p>(1) Steripath Micro Specimen Diversion Device</p>
<p>2. Winged Needle: BD Vacutainer UltraTouch Push Button Blood Collection Set (21G or 23G)</p>	<p>(2) Luer Extension Set with Male Luer Lock</p>
<p>3. Long Neck Transfer Adapter</p>	<p>(3) Long Neck Transfer Adapter</p>

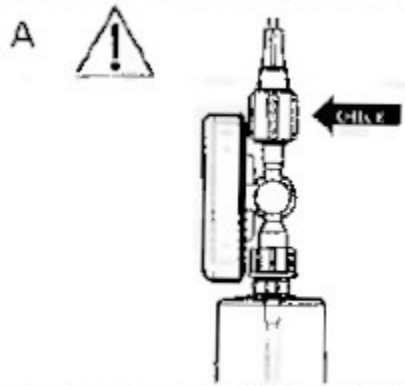
Procedure:

Important: Retain the barcoded back half of the package. This will be submitted with the specimen.



1. Open the package and remove the device from the backer card by pulling up on the transfer adapter.

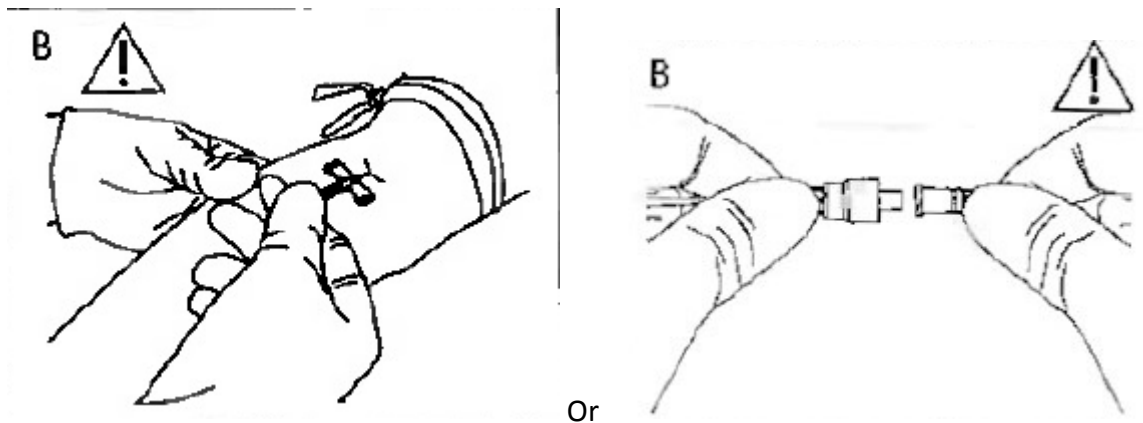
Caution: Ensure the winged needle or the Luer extension is securely attached to the diversion device



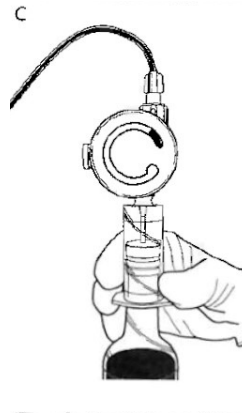
2. Prepare the patient and collection site as outlined in the "[Specimen Collection – Blood Culture Collection](#)" procedure.

For IV Catheter collections, aseptically connect the Luer extension to the peripheral IV catheter hub

Caution: Initial specimen diversion will not occur if the culture bottle is inserted into the transfer adapter prior to gaining venous access.



3. Insert the blood culture collection bottle into the transfer adapter. This will divert the initial 0.5 to 1.0 mL of blood into the C-shaped diversion chamber. Monitor the blood flow into the diversion chamber until it is full.

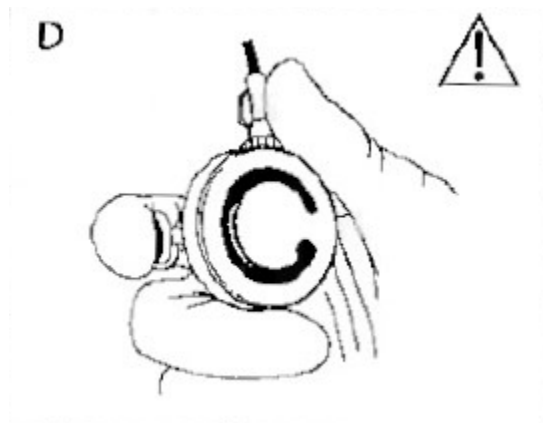


4. As soon as the C-shaped chamber is full, depress the button on the side of the diversion device to switch the device to collection mode.

Warning: Pressing the button before completely filling the chamber may compromise effectiveness in reducing blood culture contamination.

Delay in pressing the button after the chambers full may divert more blood in the chamber than intended.

Do not retract the button.

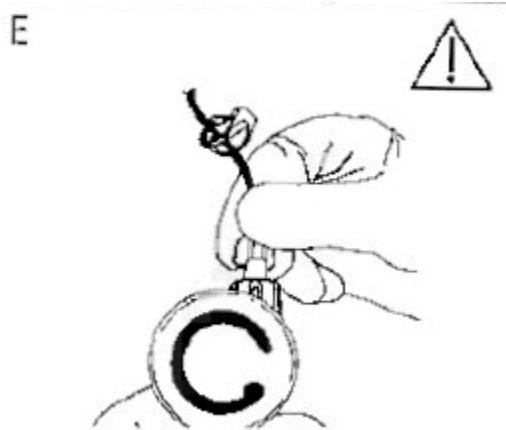


5. Continue to collect and fill the blood culture and other specimen tubes following the ["Blood Draw Tube Order"](#) policy
6. For venipuncture collection: Once all tubes have been collected, activate the safety mechanism on the needle and remove from the vein.

For IV catheter collections: Once all tubes have been collected, clamp the tubing and detach the diversion device from the outlet of the Luer Extension. The IV catheter

should be flushed and locked following NMC standard procedure.

7. Safely discard the Steripath Collection System in a sharps container.



8. Label all tubes with the patient's full name, DOB, the collectors initials or Meditech number, and the date and time of collection.
9. Attach a patient sticker or hand write the patient's name and DOB on the barcoded back half of the Steripath Collection System package.
10. Insert the barcoded back half of the package into the requisition pocket of the blood specimen collection back (do not place in the same pocket as the blood specimen).

Important: The barcoded package is used for quality assurance to track compliance with blood culture collection requirements. This is vital to our efforts to effectively track and reduce NMC's blood culture contamination rates.

References:

- "Steripath Micro Blood Specimen Collection System Instructions For Use (Luer Lock)", Magnolia Medical Technologies, Inc., Seattle WA, REF 40BD-EN, P00978-001 Rev C 2022-12.
- "Steripath Micro Blood Specimen Collection System Instructions For Use (Winged Needle)", Magnolia Medical Technologies, Inc., Seattle WA, REF 40BD-21UT-EN & 40BD-23UT-EN, P00977-001 Rev C 2022-12.

Related Policies:

- [Specimen Collection – Blood Culture Collection](#)
- [Blood Draw Tube Order](#)