

**HACKETTSTOWN REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER
LABORATORY POLICY MANUAL**

SPECIMEN COLLECTION FROM INDWELLING LINES

=====

Effective Date: January 2002

Cross Referenced:

Reviewed Date: 4/9/12, 6/14

Revised Date: 01/10, 01/12

Policy No: SC 500.4

Origin: Special Collections

Authority: Laboratory Director

Page: 1 of 1

PURPOSE

To establish which indwelling lines are acceptable for laboratory testing, and also establish the proper protocol for collection.

POLICY

The Laboratory will assist in the collection of specimens from indwelling lines by observing that proper presample discard was performed, filling the tubes to make certain that adequate volume is attained for various tests and verifying that proper patient identification/labeling is done.

When arriving on the unit for rounds, the RN should be informed that their help will be needed and when convenient for both parties, the specimen will be drawn. If STAT or timed testing is requested the lab should be notified by nursing and be present at the draw. The phlebotomist will identify the patient as per phlebotomy guidelines. Once the blood is drawn the phlebotomist will re- identify the patient , label the tube with the phlebotomist's Cerner sign on and the time of draw. The requisition will then be signed with the phlebotomist's Cerner sign on and the time of draw. The phlebotomist will also write the name of the RN that drew the sample on the Blood Bank requisition and state that it was a line draw.

Once the sample is in the lab it is to be received into the computer system. The date , time and the Cerner sign on of the phlebotomist who witnessed the collection of sample will be entered in to the computer. It must also be commented in the computer system the name of RN who drew the sample. Be sure to change the method of collection from venipuncture to line draw.

Any results that are not consistent with the expected values or are grossly abnormal should be recollected by venipuncture before reporting.

Lines acceptable for use following a 10 cc predraw discard are:

- Heparin lock
- Triple/double lumen catheters (draw must be done at least one hour after heparin flush)/CVP line
- Port-a-Cath
- PICC lines (4 French or larger)
- Arterial lines
- Swans-Ganz lines

Blood for coagulation should not be drawn when Heparin is running in the line.
Accuracy of test results may be affected due to line draw.