



Australian Government

HLTPAT012 Perform capillary blood collections

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Modification History

Release	Comments
1	This unit of competency was first released in HLT Health Release 10.0.

Application

This unit describes the skills and knowledge required to confirm collection requirements, prepare client and equipment, and collect capillary blood using specific collection criteria, techniques and equipment.

This unit applies to any individual for whom capillary blood collection is part of the job role. They may be working in collection centres, in hospitals or in other health care environments.

The skills in this unit must be applied in accordance with current Commonwealth and State/Territory legislation, Australian/New Zealand standards and industry codes of practice.

Licensing/Regulatory Information

No licensing, legislative or certification requirements apply to this unit at the time of publication.

Pre-requisite unit(s)

No pre-requisite units

Competency field(s)

N/A

Unit sector(s)

Pathology

Elements and Performance Criteria

Element	Performance criteria
<i>Elements define the essential outcomes</i>	<i>Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.</i>
1. Greet client and confirm pre-test criteria	1.1 Greet client courteously and identify self 1.2 Identify client according to organisational procedures

	1.3 Confirm that client meets pre-testing criteria for required capillary blood collection 1.4 Obtain, interpret and record personal and clinical information according to organisational procedures 1.5 Explain capillary blood collection procedure to client or carer 1.6 Obtain informed consent for capillary blood collection procedure from client or carer
2. Prepare for skin puncture blood collections	2.1 Examine client to determine capillary blood collection site 2.2 Assemble equipment for test requested and select capillary blood collection site 2.3 Determine minimum volumes of blood required according to testing, organisational procedures and volume limits based on client age and weight 2.4 Position client to ensure comfort and safety of client and self, using supportive holding techniques 2.5 Use appropriate warming device to safely prepare site according to organisational procedures 2.6 Identify when assistance may be needed and seek help
3. Draw blood	3.1 Clean site with approved cleansing agent and allow to air dry 3.2 Puncture the skin in the appropriate location, using an approved lancet appropriate to site selected and client age 3.3 Collect capillary blood sample according to organisational procedures 3.4 Invert capillary blood collection tube according to organisational procedures 3.5 Following collection, apply pressure to puncture site until site has stopped bleeding and apply wound dressing 3.6 Observe client before, during and after capillary blood collection for potential adverse effects and respond according to organisational procedures
4. Follow post-blood collection procedures	4.1 Label blood collection tubes in front of client with time and date of capillary blood collection and, client details according to organisational procedures 4.2 Dispose of waste according to waste management procedures 4.3 Confirm tube labelling information accuracy with client or carer

	4.4 Complete capillary blood collection documentation in accordance with organisational procedures 4.5 Prepare collected samples for transit or store according to test requested and organisational procedures
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Foundation skills

The foundation skills essential to performance of this unit, but not explicit in the performance criteria are listed here, along with a brief context statement.

Skills	Description
Oral communication skills to:	• interact with clients, assess client against pre-test criteria and report findings using some specialised vocabulary.
Writing skills to:	• complete familiar and unfamiliar documentation.
Reading skills to:	• interpret request information in client records, technical and procedural documents, infection control policies.
Numeracy skills to:	• independently measure blood volumes, interpret reference ranges and expiry dates.
Observation skills to:	• routinely monitor clients during and post capillary blood collection.

Range of conditions

N/A

Assessment Requirements for HLTPAT012 Perform capillary blood collections

Performance Evidence

The candidate must show evidence of the ability to complete tasks outlined in elements and performance criteria of this unit, manage tasks and manage contingencies in the context of the job role. There must be evidence that the candidate has:

- followed established technical, infection control and safety procedures and collected capillary blood using skin puncture from adults, adolescents or children, involving:
 - at least 2 collections performed in a simulated environment, of which 1 collection to be completed on an infant heel manikin
 - at least 3 collections to be performed on at least 3 individuals in the workplace or simulated work environment

Knowledge Evidence

The candidate must be able to demonstrate essential knowledge required to effectively complete tasks outlined in elements and performance criteria of this unit, manage tasks and manage contingencies in the context of the work role. This includes knowledge of:

- legal and ethical considerations for capillary blood collection, and how these are applied in organisational procedures:
 - children in the workplace
 - duty of care
 - informed consent
 - mandatory reporting
 - privacy, confidentiality and disclosure
 - records management
 - supportive holding for procedures and limitations
 - work health and safety
- work role boundaries:
 - boundaries of responsibilities
 - capillary blood collection role in different contexts, and situations where skin puncture is the most appropriate collection technique
 - sources of blood sample requests
- standard infection control requirements:
 - hand hygiene
 - personal protective equipment (PPE)

- avoiding contact with bodily fluids
 - sharps injury prevention and treatment
 - waste management
- industry terminology used in skin puncture blood collection:
 - equipment
 - procedures
 - abbreviations
 - skin puncture sites
 - clinical history and medication details
- key aspects of human anatomy and physiology in relation to the skin, vascular, arterial and nervous system relevant to capillary collections
- clinical risks of capillary blood collection procedures and procedures designed to minimise those risks
- factors which may affect the chemical analysis of blood and impact on collection:
 - appropriate times to collect
 - impact of drugs
 - timing of last dose
 - required fasting times
 - protecting the integrity of the specimen
- techniques for blood collection through skin puncture
- features, functions and use of skin puncture blood collection equipment:
 - approved lancets
 - cleansing solutions and swabs
 - collection tubes (microtainers)
 - dressings
- blood sample handling, processing, transit and storage methods
- requirements for selection and collection into tubes with variable additives:
 - ethylenediaminetetraacetic acid (EDTA)
 - lithium/sodium heparin
 - fluoride oxalate
 - separation gel

Assessment Conditions

All aspects of the performance evidence must be demonstrated using simulation prior to demonstration in a clinical workplace setting or an environment that reflects a real workplace under direction and supervision.

The following conditions must be met for this unit:

- use of suitable facilities, equipment and resources including:
- sharps containers
- bio waste bins
- alcohol wipes
- dressings
- PPE
- hand hygiene facilities
- documented collection procedures for the candidate to follow

Assessors must satisfy the Standards for Registered Training Organisations' requirements for assessors and must hold this unit or demonstrate equivalent skills and knowledge to that contained within this unit.

Mandatory Workplace Requirements

All clinical workplace activities must be supervised by a phlebotomist currently working in a phlebotomist role for at least 18 hours per fortnight for at least 12 months, to ensure patient safety.

Unit Mapping Information

Previous Code and Title	Equivalence	Comments
HLTPAT003 Perform capillary blood collections	Equivalent	Minor changes to the elements and performance criteria, knowledge evidence. Significant changes made to performance evidence and assessment conditions. Foundation skills made explicit.

Links

Companion volumes, including implementation guides, are found on the national training register - <https://vetnet.gov.au/Pages/TrainingDocs.aspx?q=ced1390f-48d9-4ab0-bd50-b015e5485705>.