

Blood Sampling From Central Venous Access Devices

- **Doctor Order is required for all blood sampling**
- **May only be performed by licensed nurse per state regulation and facility policy**
- **The largest lumen is preferred for blood withdrawal on multi-lumen catheters**
- **Stop all infusions for at least TWO minutes prior to blood draw**
- **Therapeutic drug levels may be specifically ordered to be drawn via peripheral site**
- **Improper timing of drawing labs can greatly affect lab results which can affect patient outcomes and improper dosing of medication.**

Drawing a sample for BLOOD CULTURES:

Do NOT discard the blood from the first aspirated draw. Fill the blood culture tube with aspirated blood from the first draw. If a single blood culture is ordered, it should be drawn directly from a peripheral vein or as ordered per MD.

Drawing a sample for LABS:

- **Approximately 5 ml of blood is withdrawn and discarded PRIOR to drawing blood for lab sample**

Drawing Peak and Trough

- + Peak=Greatest concentration of the drug in the blood 30 minutes **AFTER infusion.**
- + Trough=greatest concentration of the drug **PRIOR to next infusion, typically PRIOR to 4th dose or MD order.**

IMPROPER TIMING OF DRAWING THESE LABS CAN RESULT IN DOSES BEING HELD WHICH CAN GREATLY AFFECT TREATMENT OUTCOMES.

- + **CONSIDER DRAWING LABS FROM PERIPHERAL SITE FOR ACCURACY**
- + **IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT LAB SHOULD NOT BE DRAWN FROM SAME LUMEN THAT MEDICATION HAS BEEN ADMINISTERED. FALSE HIGH READINGS CAN OCCUR.**
- + **IF CVAD IS USED TO DRAW LABS, DO NOT FORGET TO WITHDRAW AND WASTE 5 MLS OF BLOOD PRIOR TO DRAWING BLOOD FOR LAB SAMPLE.**