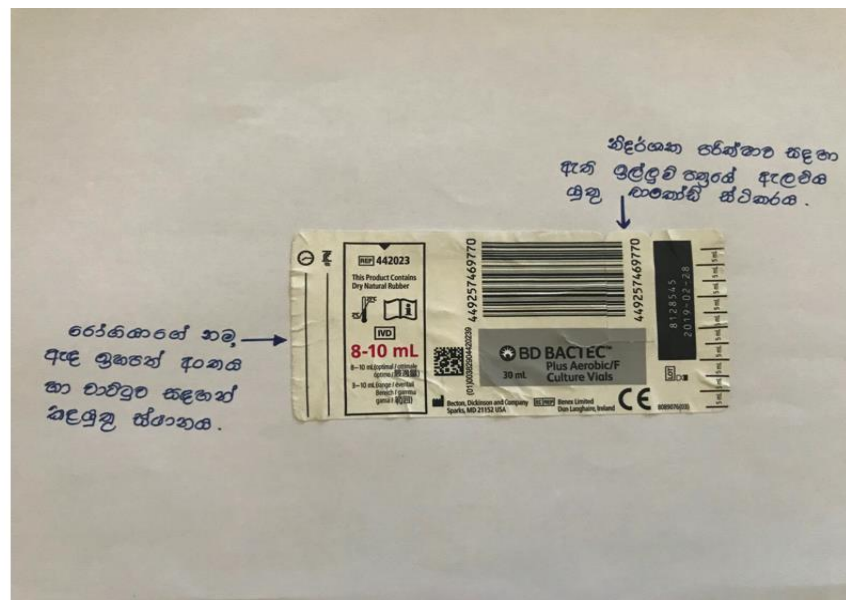


Medical Research Institute, Colombo, Sri Lanka	Subject title: Guideline on collection of blood for automated system	Version 1.1
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## Guidelines for collection of blood cultures for automated system

1. Select the appropriate BACTEC culture bottle (eg. paediatric, adult etc.)
2. Open the plastic cap, wipe the rubber lid with surgical spirit. Discard the cap.
3. Keep the bottle on a flat surface. Make sure the blood culture bottle is in room temperature before inoculation.
4. Collect appropriate volume of blood: adult 8-10mL, child 1-3 mL, neonate 1mL. [Please refer guideline on blood collection procedure.]
5. Inject the blood through the lid. Discard the syringe and needle in to the sharps bin. **Do not cover the rubber lid with plaster.** Changing the needle on inoculation is not required.
6. Mix the blood with the broth well by rolling the bottle in between the palms.
7. Write the **patient's name, BHT number and ward in the space allocated on the bottle.** Do not paste any other label/s.
8. **Do not write, damage or disturb the 'barcode label' on the bottle.**
9. Remove the other 'barcode sticker' on the bottle and paste it on the request form.



10. Bottle should be transported in room temperature as soon as possible.



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11. If any delay, **keep the bottle in room temperature** until transport.
12. Send the bottle to the Medical Research Institute, Colombo 08 with completed MRI request form (including the site (peripheral vein, CVP line etc., time of collection, short clinical details)
- 13. Suspected diagnosis is important to decide on the incubation time. Eg. For typhoid fever – 2 weeks, brucellosis – 3 weeks etc.** therefore clinical history is very important.
14. The automated blood culture bottles should be stored in room temperature. Check the expiry date before use.

### Reporting

A report will be issued by E-mail for all blood culture requests **within** 48 hours of incubation. All positive growths will be informed by telephone on the same day. Hard copy of the report will be posted to relevant hospitals.

### Other information

- Separate adult and pediatric blood culture bottles are available
- Do not use bottles after the date of expiry
- For collection of blood for culture in leptospirosis please refer to Annexure 1C
- Please refer guideline on blood collection procedure

**Contact details: (0112) 69 35 32/33/34 Ext. Laboratory 336, Consultant 332**

Prepared by: Dr. Lilani Karunanayake, Consultant Clinical Microbiologist, Department of Bacteriology, Medical Research Institute.

