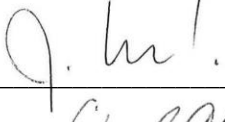



Leamington Mennonite Home  
Long Term Care

POLICY AND PROCEDURE

<b>CATEGORY:</b> Nursing	<b>SUBJECT:</b> Venipuncture for Collection of Blood Specimens	<b>SECTION:</b> V
<b>DATE:</b> February 1995	<b>Administrator:</b> <u></u>	<b>POLICY:</b> 1
<b>REVISION DATES:</b> December 2004	<b>Director of Care:</b> <u></u>	

**VENIPUNCTURE FOR COLLECTION OF BLOOD SPECIMENS**

**POLICY:**

To provide the resident with this diagnostic service within the Leamington Mennonite Home. Registered Staff certified in phlebotomy will perform the service as directed by the Physician when the lab technician is not available.

**PROCEDURE:**

1. Collect all necessary equipment: vacutainers, needle, alcohol swab, tourniquet, cotton ball, tape, sharps container and gloves.
2. Explain the procedure to the resident.
3. Wash hands. Don gloves.
4. Ask resident to extend his / her arm. Place the tourniquet tightly approximately 3" above elbow. Ask the resident to make a fist if they are able. Palpate the inner elbow for a vein. Swipe area with an alcohol swab.
5. Insert the needle into the vein and collect all samples needed following proper collection procedure. Instruct the resident to release his / her fist once blood appears in the tube.
6. When filling the last tube, release the tourniquet. Disconnect the last vacutainer prior to removing the needle from the vein.
7. Apply pressure to the puncture site using a cotton ball. After approximately one minute, check the site for bleeding, apply tape over the cotton ball.
8. Remove all supplies and waste from the resident's room. Make sure the resident is comfortable before leaving the room.
9. Properly label all vacutainers with the resident's name and date.
10. The Ward Clerk will complete the lab requisition.
11. Store the samples in the lab cooler bag for pick up by the courier.