

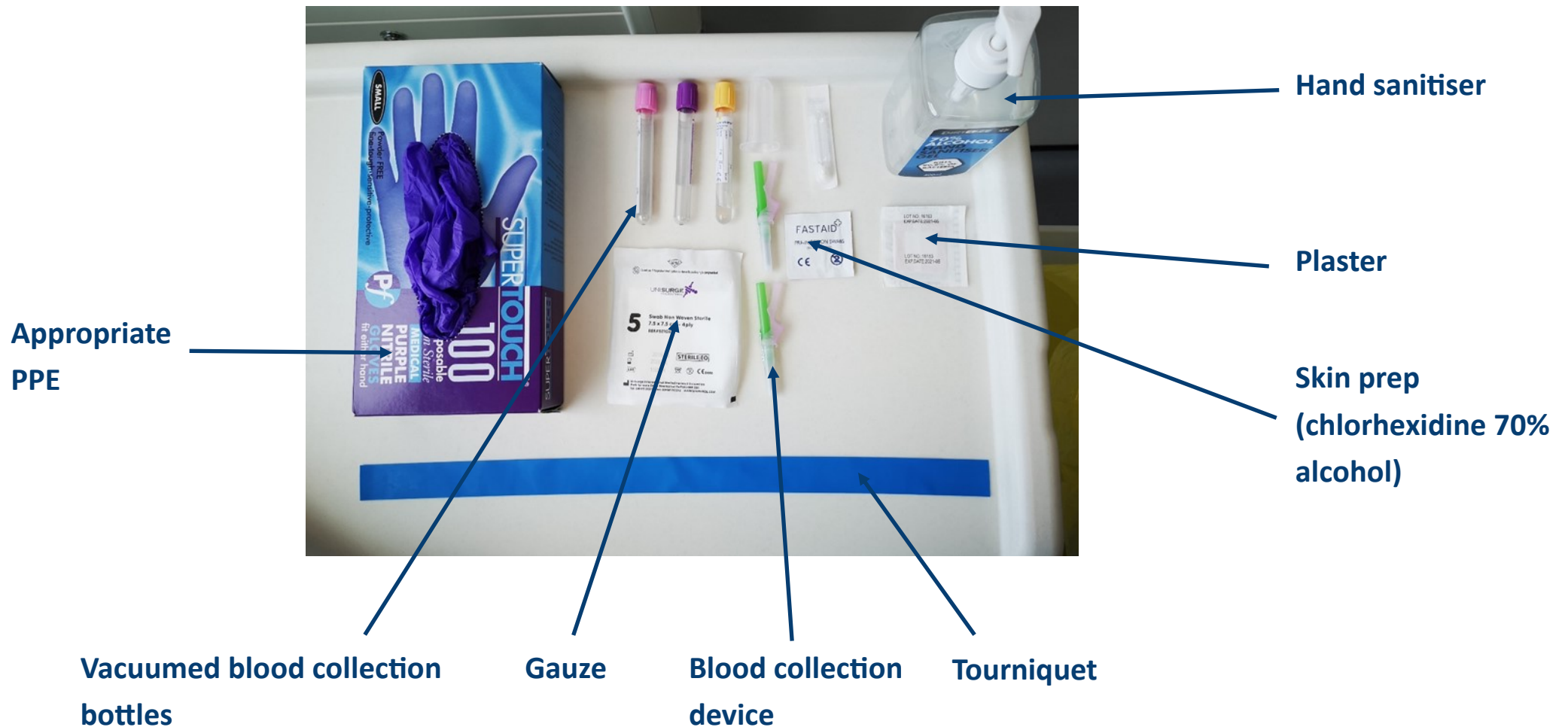
# Step-by-step guide

## Venepuncture

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# Gather your equipment (Vacutainer)



# Procedure—all methods

## Wash your hands



Decontaminate hands with soap and water, or by using alcohol based hand sanitiser.

Don appropriate PPE to protect health care professional and the patient.

## Confirm patient identity



Confirm patient identity, gain consent, and check the details on the blood request form.

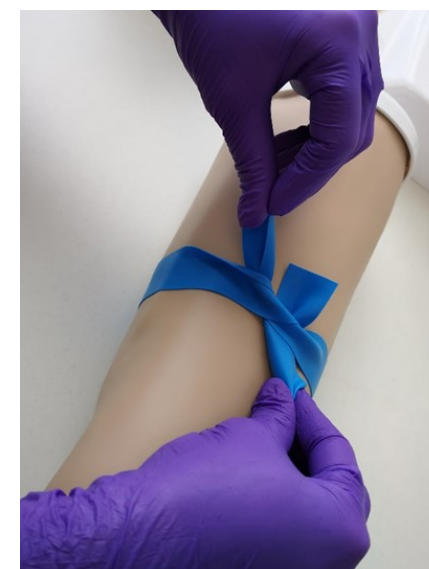
## Make Patient comfortable



Make the patient comfortable, a pillow under the arm will provide support and aid venous access.

Respect patient privacy; ensure room is well lit and that a sharps bin is available.

## Apply Tourniquet



Examine both arms and avoid any bruising, signs of infection or phlebitis.

Apply tourniquet approximately 7/8cm above venepuncture site, tight enough to obstruct venous return but does not obstruct arterial flow.

Avoid leaving on for longer than 1 minute, this can impact the blood results.

# Procedure

## Identify a vein



Palpate the vein over the site of insertion to encourage it to release histamine.

Be careful not to tap too hard as this could be painful and potentially cause a haematoma.

## Cleanse the skin



Follow trust policy.

Clean area for a minimum of 30 seconds and allow skin to air dry until cleaning agent has completely evaporated.

Do not touch or repalpate the area.

# Procedure—Vacutainer

## Stabilise the area



Stabilise the vein by pulling back below or to the side of the insertion site.

## Insert the needle



Steadily insert the needed with the bevel up (eye to the sky) at an angle of approximately 10 – 30°.

The angle you use will be dependent on the size of the vein.

Advance the needle until it is securely in the vein.

## Introduce the vacuum tube



Insert the vacuumed blood collection tube into the plastic holder whilst keeping the needle steady, so it does not advance further into the patient's vein.

## (B)



The blood will then be drawn into the blood collection tube due to the vacuum system. Fill the tube to the required level.



# Procedure

## Remove the collection tube



Remove the collection tube once you have collected the required amount of blood. Keep the needle in position by holding the plastic holder securely.

## Undo the tourniquet



Once you have attached the last collection tube, release the tourniquet.

When the tube is filled to the required level, disconnect the tube prior to removing the needle.

# Procedure

## Apply pressure to the puncture site



Withdraw the needle from the vein and swiftly apply gauze to the puncture site.

Ask the patient if they can assist by applying pressure to the gauze swab.

## Activate safety device



On a hard surface use the inbuilt safety mechanism to protect yourself and the patient (do not close using your hands or on the patient bed)

## Dispose of needle



Dispose of any sharps immediately into a sharps container.

Always following trust policy.

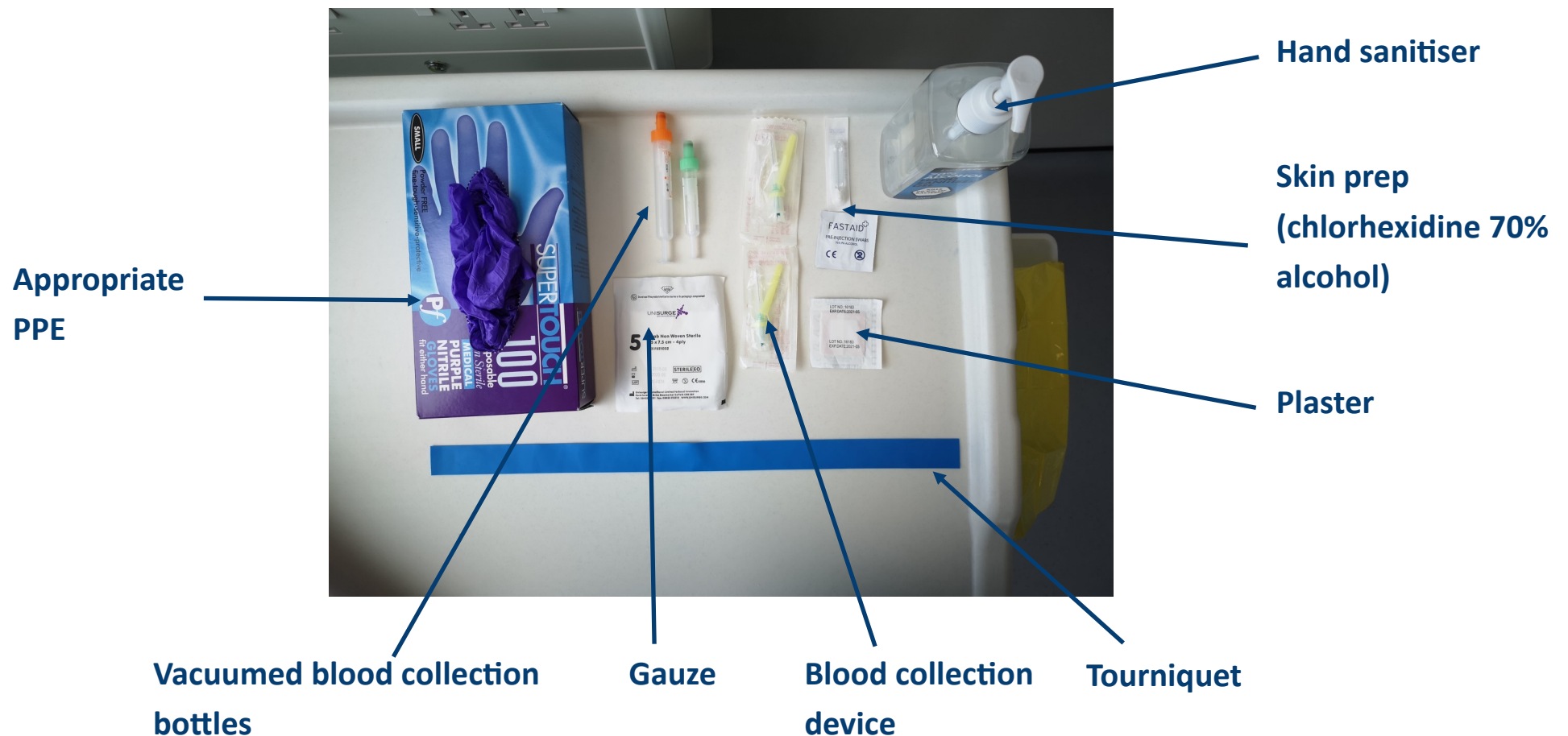
## Check puncture site



Check the puncture site for bleeding, you may need to use a plaster or dressing.

Ensure patient comfort. Offer a refreshment

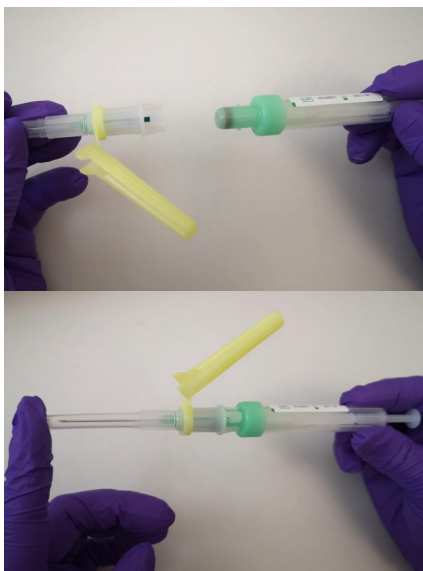
# Gather your equipment (Monovette)





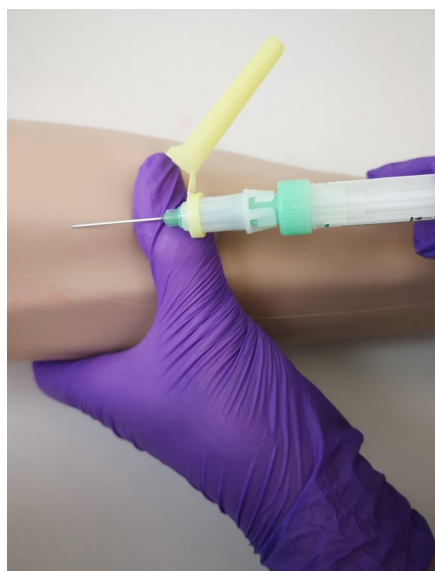
# Procedure—Monovette

## Prepare the equipment



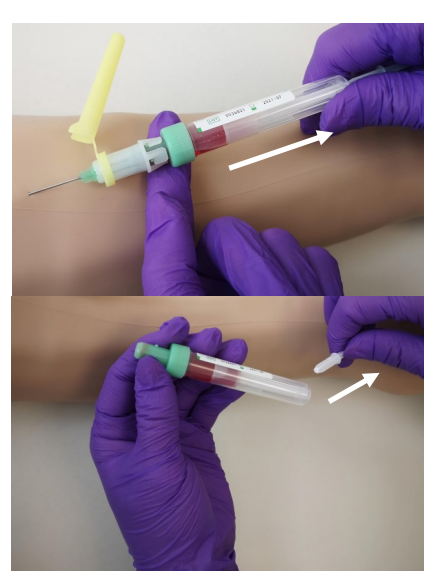
Follow steps on pages 3–4.  
Connect the needle to the tube.

## Insert the needle



Stabilise the area and insert the  
needle at an angle of 10–30°.

## Aspirate blood



Slowly pull the plunger backwards  
until you have obtained the re-  
quired amount of blood.

Remove the tube from the adaptor  
and snap off the plunger, following  
the manufacturer's instructions.

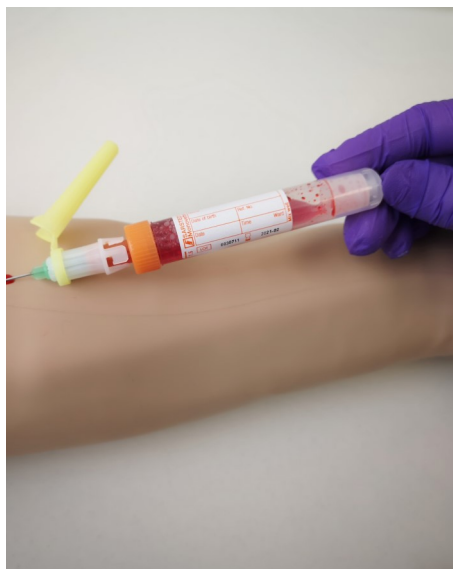
## Use device as vacuum tube



If the blood is flowing freely use the  
tube as a vacuumed tube, by pulling  
the plunger of the empty tube back  
before attaching to the needle.

# Procedure—Monovette

## Introduce vacuum tube to needle



Connect the vacuumed tubes in the correct order according to local policy.

## Undo the tourniquet



Once you have attached the last collection tube you should release the tourniquet. When the tube is filled to the required level remove the tube, before removing the needle.

## Dispose of needle



Dispose of any sharps immediately into a sharps container.

Always following trust policy.

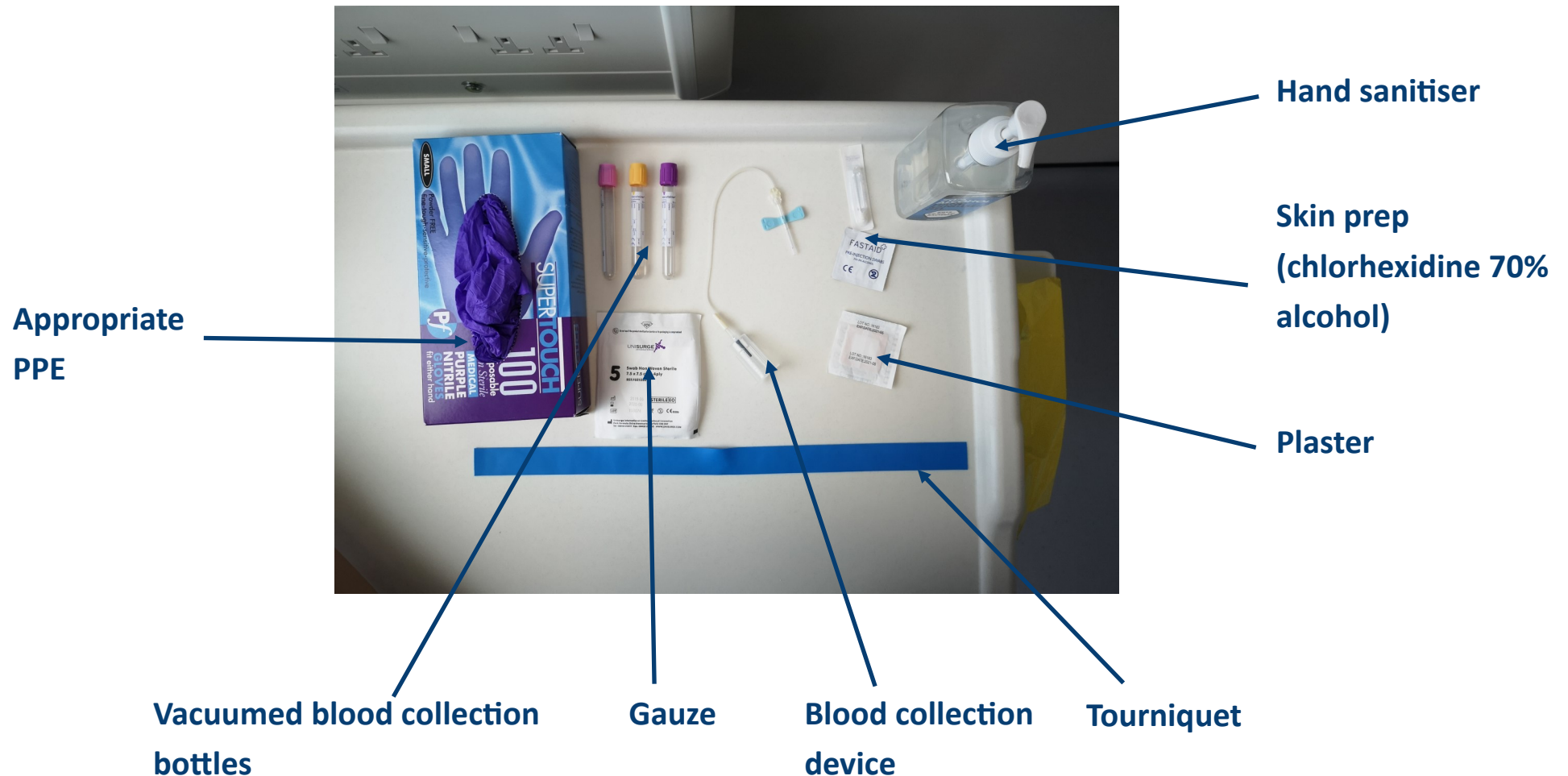
## Follow p7

Procedure		
<p>Apply pressure to the puncture site</p>  <p>Withdraw the needle from the vein and swiftly apply gauze to the puncture site. Ask the patient. If they can assist by applying pressure to the swab.</p>	<p>Activate safety device</p>  <p>On a hard surface use the inbuilt safety mechanism to protect yourself and the patient (do not close using your hands or on the patient bed)</p>	<p>Dispose into a sharps container</p>  <p>Always following trust policy.</p>

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Follow the remaining steps on page 7

# Gather your equipment (Butterfly)



# Procedure—Butterfly

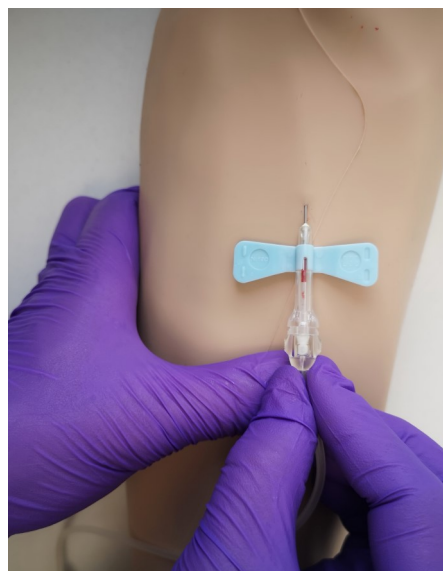
## Prepare the equipment



Follow steps on pages 3– 4.

If required attached the needle holder to the winged infusion device.

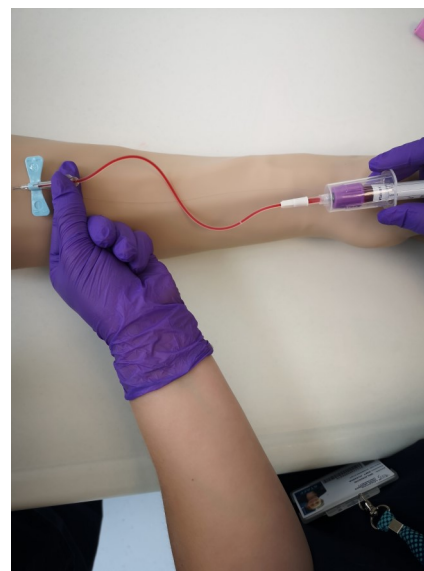
## Insert the needle



Stabilise the area and insert the needle at an angle of 10–30°.

There will be a flash/flashback observed in the sets transparent tubing, which confirms the needle has entered a vein.

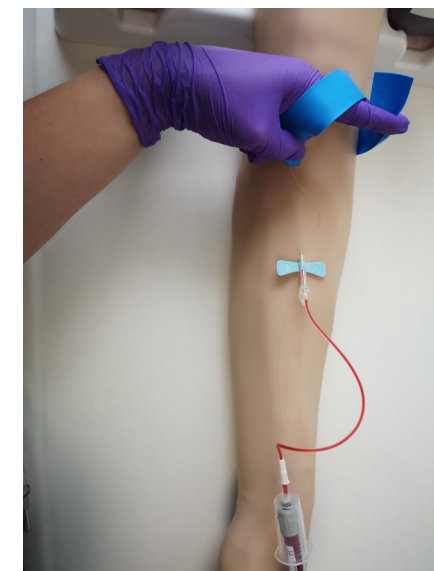
## Introduce blood tube



Once the needle is in the vein, introduce the vacuumed tube.

Once the tube is in the correct position blood will be drawn into the tube.

Fill the tube to the required level. Fill the tubes in the correct order according to trust policy.

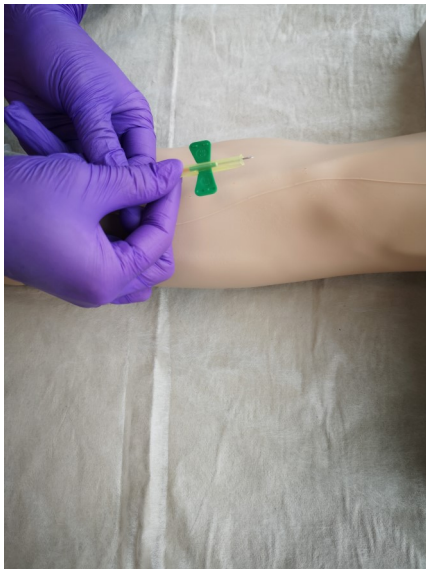


Once you have attached the last collection tube you should release the tourniquet. When the tube is filled to the required level remove the tube before removing the needle.



# Procedure—Butterfly

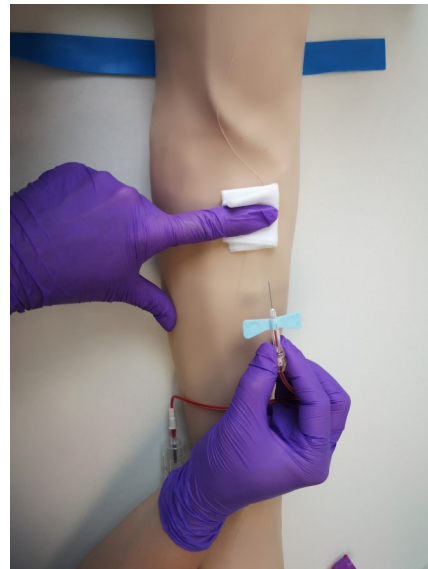
## Remove the needle (A)



If it has a needle safety device, activate this before withdrawing the needle from the vein. Refer to the manufacturer's guidelines.

The needle retracts directly into the holder as it is withdrawn, this is to reduce the risk of needlestick injuries.

## Remove the needle (B)

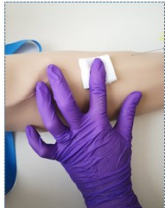



Have a gauze swab ready as you withdraw the needle, and then quickly apply the swab to the site once removed.

Immediately dispose of any used sharps into a sharps bin.

## Follow page 7

### Procedure

<p style="text-align: center; background-color: #003366; color: white; font-weight: bold; font-size: small;">Apply pressure to the puncture site</p>  <p style="font-size: x-small;">Withdraw the needle from the vein and swiftly apply gauze to the puncture site. Ask the patient if they can assist by applying pressure to the swab.</p>	<p style="text-align: center; background-color: #003366; color: white; font-weight: bold; font-size: small;">Activate safety device</p>  <p style="font-size: x-small;">On a hard surface use the inbuilt safety mechanism to protect yourself and the patient (do not close using your hands or on the patient bed)</p>	<p style="text-align: center; background-color: #003366; color: white; font-weight: bold; font-size: small;">Dispose into a sharps bin</p> <p style="font-size: x-small;">Always</p>
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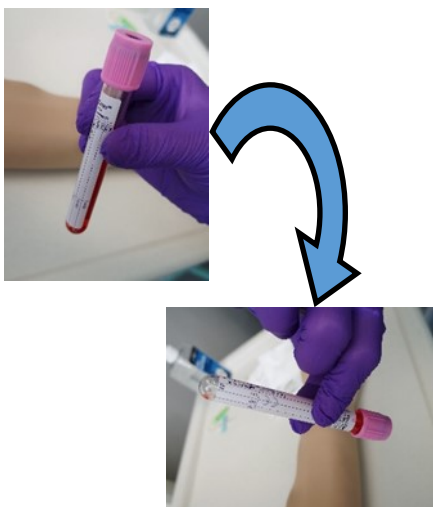
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Follow the remaining steps on page 7



# Procedure—All methods

## Invert collection tube



Invert the bottle as per manufacturer's guidelines, this guarantees the blood mixes with the contents in the blood collection tube

## Waste disposal



Dispose of waste according to trust policy.