

Steps for Collecting Fingertick Blood Samples in Micro-Vials for Lead Testing



1 Place all collection materials on top of disposable pad. Open the lancet, alcohol swabs, gauze, bandage, and other items. Have all items ready for blood collection.



2 Wash the patient's hands thoroughly with soap and water. Allow them to air dry without touching any surface. Do not use paper towels to dry the patient's hands. Put on your powder free gloves.



3 Massage the patient's hand and lower part of the finger to increase blood flow. Turn the hand down.



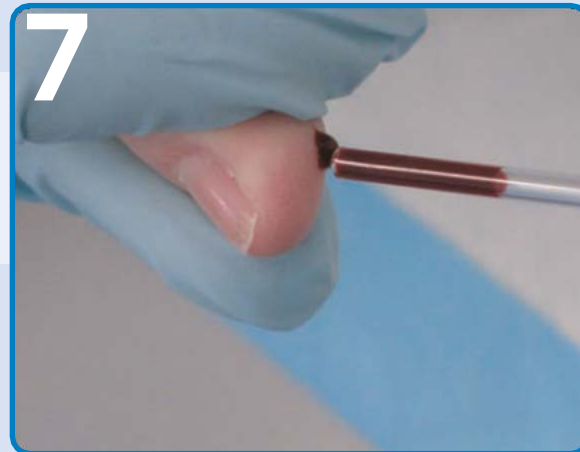
4 Scrub the patient's middle finger or ring finger with an alcohol swab.



5 Hold the finger in a downward position and lance the palm side surface of the finger.



6 Apply slight pressure to start blood flow. Blot the first drop of blood on a gauze pad without touching the finger and discard the gauze in appropriate container.



7 Keep the finger in a downward position to maintain blood flow. Hold the micro-collection tube at an angle of 10 degrees below the collection site and touch the tapered end of the tube into the droplet of blood. Do not touch the skin with the tube. Fill the micro-collection vial with the appropriate amount of blood as defined by the micro-collection container that you are using.



8 Once you have collected enough blood, apply a slight pressure to the finger to stop the bleeding. Apply a sterile adhesive bandage over the puncture site.



9 Seal the specimen container and, inverting it immediately, gently invert container 7-10 times to prevent clots from forming.



10 Place the label on the vial. If the label contains a barcode, the barcode needs to be vertical like a ladder when placed on the vial. If the barcode is not vertical, the laboratory will not be able to read the label. Properly discard all used materials. Contact the laboratory for storage and transport guidance.

For more information visit www.cdc.gov

