

You may not be getting the full picture

Read this guide to reveal the best practice blood culture specimen collection



#Collect4RevealMore



Current challenges

The role of clinicians in today's healthcare environment is challenging. With an increasing number of patients, accompanied by stretched budgets and tight resources, it often feels like there are not enough hours in the day.

Understandably, when it comes to collecting blood culture specimens, you want to be efficient, both with your time and resources. You also want to minimise patient discomfort.

Often, this has resulted in collecting only two blood culture bottles per patient.

But this might not provide the complete picture...



Two won't do

Despite common practice, collecting two blood culture bottles is not ideal for the detection of bloodstream infections (BSIs).

Why?

Two bottles may not provide a sufficient volume of blood to reveal the full diagnostic picture.

This means:

- Vital clues regarding bloodstream infections could be missed
- Misdiagnoses could be made
- Appropriate antibiotic therapy could be delayed
- Blood cultures may need to be redrawn, causing more discomfort and taking more time and resources
- In the cases of high-risk bloodstream infections that could lead to sepsis, precious time could be wasted.



Our battle against blood infections

Many on the front line in healthcare are engaged in a fight against bloodstream infections. Every year across the world, there are an **estimated 31.5 million cases of sepsis diagnosed**.¹

Of these, **~5.3 million patients won't survive**.¹ Despite best efforts, sepsis remains a leading cause of mortality and critical illness worldwide.²

In this light, specimen collection practices for bloodstream infections are all the more important.

There is a life connected to every blood culture specimen; a life that might be at risk.

A life that you could help save.



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When collecting specimens from adults for blood culture, best practice standards are clear.

Collect at least four bottles, each with 8-10 ml of blood. Every time, for every patient.

By collecting at least four blood culture bottles, you ensure sufficient volume for labs to produce accurate results, leading to a higher chance of identifying the causative organism, and making a timely diagnosis and appropriate treatment decisions.

By collecting the right number of bottles the first time, you'll also avoid the need for repeat blood collections, and help enable:

- More accurate diagnostics
- Faster time to appropriate therapy
- Less time wasted
- Fewer wasted resources



**When you
Collect 4, you
Reveal More.**



Now you're ready to **#Collect4RevealMore**

Feel free to share this guide with your colleagues and other teams within your organisation, so everyone is aligned on the importance of collecting four blood culture bottles.

Questions or comments?

Please contact us at:

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References

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