Blood Culture Collection Guide 4.05.A01

- 1. Stop all infusions prior to specimen collection.
- 2. Refer to the enterprise intravenous therapy policy for proper cleansing technique for preparing the line draw site.
- 3. A "Set" of blood cultures is defined as one aerobic (green) and one anaerobic (orange) culture bottle or one pediatric (yellow) bottle
- 4. Keep supplies as sterile as possible.
- 5. Uncap the bottles and clean them with an alcohol prep. Let dry for 30 seconds.
- 6. **Correct volume of blood is critical.** 16-20cc for one adult set (8-10cc/bottle) <u>or</u> 0.5-4cc for a pediatric bottle.
- ATTENTION: When using aerobic and anaerobic bottles, the inoculation order varies (Refer to policy with drawing instructions for each device):

 A. Syringe and Line draws (Nursing staff only): Inoculate anaerobic bottle first, followed by aerobic bottle.
 B. Butterfly: Inoculate aerobic bottle first, followed by anaerobic bottle.

B. Butterfly: Inoculate <u>aerobic</u> bottle first, followed by <u>anaerobic</u> bottle.

Label specimens and send to lab. Please do not completely cover the barcode on the bottle with the test label.



Adult Culture Set (Only aerobic/anaerobic bottles include a fill line mark)





Labeling (Avoid areas in red squares)