

## Unit 37: Obtain Venous Blood Samples

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Level:	3
Unit type:	Optional
Credit value:	3
Guided learning hours:	24

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### Unit Aim

This unit is aimed at health and social care professionals involved in the use of venepuncture/phlebotomy techniques and procedures to obtain venous blood samples from individuals for investigations.

### Assessment requirements

This unit must be assessed in line with *Skills for Health Assessment Principles for Qualifications that Assess Occupational Competence* document. Detailed information can be found in *Annexe A* of the qualification specification.

Evidence for skills within learning outcomes 3-5 must come from real work activities.

<b>Learning outcomes</b> <b>The learner will:</b>	<b>Assessment criteria</b> <b>The learner can:</b>
1 Understand current legislation, national guidelines, policies, procedures and protocols in relation to obtaining venous blood samples	1.1 Summarise current legislation, national guidelines, local policies, procedures and protocols in relation to obtaining venous blood samples
2 Understand the anatomy and physiology relating to obtaining venous blood samples	2.1 Describe the position of venous blood vessels in relation to arteries, nerves and other structures
	2.2 Describe the structure of venous blood vessels
	2.3 Explain blood-clotting processes and the factors that influence blood clotting for <b>individuals</b>

<b>Learning outcomes</b> <b>The learner will:</b>	<b>Assessment criteria</b> <b>The learner can:</b>
	2.4 Describe potential changes in anatomy and physiology following the collection of blood sample  2.5 Describe reasons for obtaining venous blood samples
3 Be able to prepare to obtain venous blood samples	3.1 Confirm the <b>individual's</b> identity and obtain <b>valid consent</b>  3.2 Communicate with the <b>individual</b> in a manner which: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• is appropriate to their communication needs and abilities</li> <li>• provides accurate and relevant information</li> <li>• provides support and reassurance</li> <li>• addresses needs and concerns</li> <li>• is respectful of personal beliefs and <b>preferences</b></li> </ul> 3.3 Select and prepare appropriate equipment for obtaining the venous blood sample  3.4 Select and prepare an appropriate site taking into account the <b>individual's</b> age, needs and <b>preferences</b>
4 Be able to obtain venous blood samples	4.1 Apply health and safety measures relevant to the procedure and environment  4.2 Apply standard precautions for infection control  4.3 Use the selected materials, equipment and containers/slides in accordance with agreed procedures  4.4 Obtain blood samples in the correct sequence and of the required volume and quantity  4.5 Carry out the correct procedure for encouraging closure and blood clotting at the site  4.6 Advise <b>individuals</b> on the potential adverse reactions or complications of the procedure

<b>Learning outcomes</b> <b>The learner will:</b>	<b>Assessment criteria</b> <b>The learner can:</b>
	<p>4.7 Explain the procedure to manage an arterial puncture</p> <p>4.8 Terminate the blood collection procedure to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Removal of blood collection equipment</li> <li>• Stopping blood flow</li> <li>• Stopping bleeding</li> <li>• Application of suitable dressing</li> <li>• Personal care advice to the <b>individual</b></li> </ul>
<p>5 Be able to prepare venous blood samples for transportation</p>	<p>5.1 Label, package, transport and store blood samples</p>

## Additional information about the unit

Exemplification of terms used in assessment criteria:

**Individual** refers to someone requiring care or support; it will usually mean the person or people supported by the learner.

**Valid consent:** Consent (must be in line with agreed UK country definition) may include

- The individual must have the mental capacity to make the decision
- The individual must have sufficient non-bias information to make an informed choice
- The individual must not be pressured into making a decision and must give consent freely.

**Preferences** may be based on:

- Beliefs
- Values
- Culture
- Aspirations
- Wishes.