

<b>PROCEDURE NO.:</b> <u>SC.007</u>	
<b>SUBJECT:</b> <b>Blood Ethanol Level Skin Preparation For Phlebotomy</b>	
<b>Effective Date:</b>	<u>8/27/07</u>
<b>Supersedes:</b>	<u>8/24/05</u>
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**Purpose:** When drawing a blood specimen for alcohol testing, a nonalcohol-based cleanser (i.e. soap) should be used to cleanse the venipuncture site to avoid contamination of the specimen.

**Materials:**

- Nonalcohol based cleanser (i.e. soap)
- Multi-Sample Needle (21 or 22 gauge)
- Needle-Pro Vacutainer Adapter
- Collection tube
- Gloves
- 2 x 2 gauze sponges
- Tourniquet
- Tape or adhesive bandage

**Procedure:**

1. Use nonalcohol based cleanser or soap & water to prep the site for venipuncture.  
Do **NOT** use alcohol or any solution containing alcohol for skin preparation.

2. Perform venipuncture by drawing 5 ml of blood (1 gray top tube or one 10ml Serum Separator tube) and bring it to the laboratory immediately.

**References:**

“Blood Alcohol Level Skin Preparation Before Phlebotomy”, The Christ Hospital, 11/6/95.

NCCLS – H3A4 Vol. 18 No. 7 Procedures for the Collection of Diagnostic Blood Specimens by Venipuncture; Approved Standard – Fourth Edition

NCCLS - T/DM6-A Blood ETOH Testing in Clinical Lab