

Study Guide for MedCA Exam

When blood is removed from the body, the blood clots and the liquid portion is called serum.

If veins in the arm cannot be used for venipuncture, the alternative veins lie in the dorsal side of the hands and wrist.

The instrument used to speed the removal of serum by spinning the blood is called a centrifuge.

Before performing a venipuncture, a pair of clean gloves should be put on in the presence of a patient because it is a reassuring safety-conscious gesture for both the patient and the worker.

The supine position refers to lying face up on their back.

To avoid-clotting in the blood collection tube, it is extremely important that the blood collected in a purple-topped tube be gently inverted a minimum of eight times.

The blood PH range of the normal body is 7.35 to 7.45.

Serum should be transported to the laboratory for testing and separated from blood cells within 2 hours.

Liquid makes up 55% of the total volume of the blood.

A person who has too little hemoglobin or a decreased number of red blood cells is known to be anemic.

The blood cells begin their formation in the lymph nodes and bone marrow.

If the phlebotomist collects blood in the neonatology department, the patient is hours to a few days old.

The iron containing pigment of the red blood cells is called hemoglobin.

Once they enter the bloodstream, mature red blood cells live approximately 120 days.

The body contains approximately 5 liters of blood.

The study of the nature and cause of disease is known as pathology.

A specially labeled puncture-resistant container for the disposal of needles, scalpels, and syringes is known as a sharps container.

When drawing blood, the vein that is most preferred is the median cubital.

If blood pressure is read as 120/80, the 120 is the systolic pressure.

The systolic pressure is the pressure is the pressure when the heart is contracted.

A chemical substance that prevents the blood from clotting is called an anticoagulant.

Homeostasis refers to the steady-state condition.

Handwritten information cannot be converted into bar code symbols.

Interstitial fluid is tissue fluid.

Fragile veins are most likely to be found in geriatric patients.

After a finger stick is performed, the phlebotomist should wipe away the first drop of blood with gauze.

The best angle for spreading a blood smear is by using two glass slides at 30 degrees.

Skin puncture samples are often used for white blood cell differentials.

During a skin puncture procedure, the cut should be across the fingerprint lines.

In most cases, blood collected to determine medication levels should be collected just prior to the next dose of medication to be given.

In relation to veins, the term occluded means obstructed.

The thumb has a pulse.

The last step in any phlebotomy procedure, including skin puncture is checking that the bleeding has stopped and thanking the patient for cooperating.

The best way to decontaminate a phlebotomist's hands if they are visibly dirty with dust and dirt is to wash the hands with soap and water.

Alcohol should be allowed to dry for 30 to 60 seconds before the venipuncture.

During the venipuncture, the best angle for inserting the needle into the skin is 15 to 30 degrees.

During the venipuncture procedure, the phlebotomist releases the tourniquet, after the needle is inserted and the blood begins to flow.

The term "butterfly" refers to a winged infusion set.

During the venipuncture procedure, the needle should always be inserted with the bevel side up.

Blood and urine specimens for microbiological culture should be transported to the lab quickly to improve the likelihood of detecting pathogens.

Normal blood specimens take 30 to 60 minutes to clot.

Bar codes in phlebotomy applications are not used to denote patient arm preference.

The preferred anticoagulant for the collection of whole blood for STAT situations in clinical chemistry is heparin.

The smallest number denotes the largest gauge needle. In other words, a 16 gauge needle is larger than a 24 gauge needle.

A blood cell count requires whole blood collected in a purple topped tube. Color coding of needles indicates gauge.

The yellow-topped vacuum collection tube has sodium polyanetholesulfonate (SPS) as the additive.

For newborns, the penetration depth of lancets for blood collection must be less than 2.0mm.

If a blood specimen has a separation device, it should be centrifuged once.

To chill a blood specimen as it is transported the health care worker should use icy water.