

<b>Title:</b>	Obtain and Test Capillary Blood Samples
<b>Level:</b>	3
<b>Credit value:</b>	4
<b>GLH:</b>	30
<b>Unique Reference Number:</b>	H/616/3107
<b>Sector Subject Area:</b>	1.3 Health and Social Care
<b>Aim:</b>	<p>The aim of this unit is to provide learners with the skills and knowledge to be able to collect capillary blood samples using either manual or automated lancets and testing of the sample where this is required.</p> <p>Caution must be applied with taking multiple samples from neonates or children under one-year-old, as venepuncture may be the preferred method depending on the type of sample and quantity required.</p>
<b>Assessment Type:</b>	Assessment of this unit will be through an internally set and internally assessed portfolio of evidence.
<b>Assessment Guidance:</b>	<p>Assessment decisions for skills-based learning outcomes must be made during the learner's normal work activity.</p> <p>Skills-based assessment must include direct observation as the main source of evidence and must be carried out over an appropriate period of time.</p> <p>This unit must be assessed in line with Skills for Health Assessment Principles.</p> <p>Learning outcomes 3, 4, 5 and 6 must be assessed in a real work environment.</p>

### Learning outcomes

*The learner will:*

1. Be able to understand how legislation, policy and good practice guidelines relate to obtaining and testing capillary blood samples.

#### **Delivery content:**

The aim of this learning outcome is to provide learners with the knowledge and skills to safely and effectively obtain and test capillary blood samples, in accordance with current legislation, national guidelines, local policies, protocols, and best practice standards.

The learner must:

1.1. Describe current legislation, national guidelines, local policies, protocols and good practice guidelines which relate to obtaining and testing capillary blood samples.

2. Be able to understand the anatomy and physiology in relation to obtaining and testing capillary blood samples.

**Delivery content:**

The aim of this learning outcome is to provide learners with the knowledge and skills to understand the anatomy and function of capillary blood vessels, along with the physiological processes and influencing factors involved in blood clotting, in order to support safe and effective clinical practice.

The learner must:

- 2.1 Describe the structure and purpose of capillary blood vessels.
- 2.2 Explain blood clotting processes and the factors that influence blood clotting.

3. Be able to prepare to obtain capillary blood samples.

**Delivery content:**

The aim of this learning outcome is to provide learners with the knowledge and skills to prepare for obtaining capillary blood samples, including confirming identity, obtaining valid consent, selecting an appropriate sampling site, and providing effective, person-centred communication and support that respects individual needs, beliefs, and preferences.

The learner must:

- 3.1 Confirm the **individual's** identity and obtain **valid consent**.
- 3.2. Select and prepare an appropriate site for obtaining the sample taking into account the individual's **preferences** and age.
- 3.3 Provide support and reassurance to address the individual's needs and concerns.
- 3.4 Communicate accurate information in a way that is sensitive to the individual's personal beliefs and preferences.

4. Be able to obtain capillary blood samples.

**Delivery content:**

The aim of this learning outcome is to provide learners with the knowledge and skills to safely and effectively obtain capillary blood samples, in line with health and safety protocols, infection prevention and control measures, and organisational procedures, while minimising discomfort, recognising complications, and ensuring accurate sample handling and documentation.

The learner must:

- 4.1 Apply health and safety measures relevant to the procedure and environment.
- 4.2 Apply standard precautions for infection prevention and control.
- 4.3 Describe the different reasons for obtaining capillary blood samples.
- 4.4 Obtain blood samples of the required volume and quantity causing minimal discomfort to the individual.
- 4.5 Use the selected materials, equipment and containers/slides in accordance with agreed procedures.
- 4.6 Obtain blood samples in the correct sequence when obtaining multiple samples.
- 4.7 Ensure stimulation of blood flow.
- 4.8 Select alternative sites where necessary.
- 4.9 Carry out the correct procedure for encouraging closure and blood clotting at the site.
- 4.10 Respond to any indication of an adverse reaction, complication or problem during the procedure.
- 4.11 Explain the correct process for labelling and other protocols in relation to blood samples.
- 4.12 Explain the actions to be taken if complications and problems occur during the collection of capillary blood samples, including contra-indications.

5. Be able to test and record the results of blood samples.

**Delivery content:**

The aim of this learning outcome is to provide learners with the knowledge and skills to accurately test, interpret, record, and report capillary blood sample results, in accordance with organisational procedures and local protocols, ensuring effective communication with appropriate healthcare professionals.

The learner must:

- 5.1 Test the sample using the approved method in line with organisational procedure.
- 5.2 Describe normal or expected results for particular tests.
- 5.3 Recognise and interpret normal, expected and abnormal results.
- 5.4 Ensure that results are passed on to an appropriate staff member for interpretation as required.
- 5.5 Record results fully and accurately and forward according to local requirements.

6. Be able to pass on the results of blood samples.

**Delivery content:**

The aim of this learning outcome is to provide learners with the knowledge and skills to develop effective communication skills for sharing test results and next steps with individuals, responding accurately to questions and concerns, and recognising when to refer matters beyond own role to appropriate colleagues.

The learner must:

- 6.1 Communicate the results of the tests and any further action required to the individual.
- 6.2 Respond to questions and concerns from individuals, providing accurate information.
- 6.3 Refer issues outside own responsibility to an appropriate staff member.

**Scope of Training**

The Scope of Training identifies areas that must be covered during the delivery of this unit. This is the minimum that is expected but tutors are expected to include other areas, knowledge of which will benefit their learners, based on location, types of work available and from the tutors own professional experience.

<b>Requirements</b>	
<b>Individual's</b>	Individual refers to someone requiring care or support; it will usually mean the person or people supported by the learner.
<b>Valid Consent</b>	Valid consent must be in line with agreed UK country definition.
<b>Preferences</b>	Preferences may be based on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Beliefs</li><li>• Values</li><li>• Culture</li></ul>

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