

**Attachment 16**

**Blood test SOP**

*This SOP describes the procedure for blood collection from research participants.*

It is the responsibility of the research personnel carrying out this procedure to ensure that all steps are completed both competently and safely.

#### **Procedure**

1. Assemble equipment and include needle and syringe or vacuum tube, depending on which is to be used.
2. Perform hand hygiene (if using soap and water, dry hands with single use-towel).
3. Identify and prepare the study participant.
4. Select the site, preferably at the antecubital area (i.e. the bend of the elbow). Palpate the area to locate the anatomic landmarks. DO NOT touch the site once alcohol or other antiseptic has been applied.
5. Apply a tourniquet, about 4-5 fingers width above the selected venipuncture site.
6. Ask the patient to form a fist so that the veins are more prominent.
7. Put on well-fitting, non-sterile gloves.
8. Disinfect the site using 70% isopropyl alcohol for 30 seconds and allow to dry completely (30 seconds)
9. Anchor the vein by holding the study participant's arm and placing a thumb below the venipuncture site.
10. Enter the vein swiftly at a 30-degree angle.
11. Once enough blood has been collected, release the tourniquet before withdrawing the needle.
12. Withdraw the needle gently and then give the study participant a clean gauze or dry cotton wool ball to apply to the site with gentle pressure.
13. Discard the used needle and syringe or blood sampling device in to a puncture resistant container.
14. Check the label and forms for accuracy.