


Name of Policy: Minimizing Large Volume Blood Draws		 Effective date: 01/04/2025 Original effective date: 01/12/2009	
Policy Number: 3364-107-319			
Approving Officer: Medical Director, Clinical Pathology			
Responsible Agent: Director, Clinical Pathology Administrative Director, Lab			
Scope: Pathology Laboratory University of Toledo Medical Center			
Key words: Blood draw consequences, low volume vacutainers, Intensive Care Unit (ICU) patients, combining orders, utilization review.			
<input type="checkbox"/>	New policy proposal	<input type="checkbox"/>	Minor/technical revision of existing policy
<input type="checkbox"/>	Major revision of existing policy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Reaffirmation of existing policy

(A) Policy statement

Laboratory will take steps to reduce unnecessary large volume blood draws whenever possible.

(B) Purpose of policy

Blood losses from phlebotomy may be a cause of anemia and increase transfusion needs. Other consequences include greater risk of complications during collection for health care workers and patients, increased amounts of hazardous waste, and greater cost.

(C) Procedure

1. Laboratory has evaluated and uses low volume draw vacutainer tubes. These tubes range from 1.8 ml – 5.0 ml.
2. Patients in the Intensive Care Units use low volume blue and lavender top tubes unless volume of blood needed for testing is prohibitive.
3. Phlebotomy staff review and combine orders on all inpatients whenever possible.
4. Laboratory Information System has programming in place to cancel duplicate orders as established by the medical director.
5. Laboratory utilization is reviewed on a consistent basis and actions are taken as necessary.

<p>Approved by:</p> <p><u> </u></p> <p><i>/s/</i> Name: Amira Gohara, M.D. Title: Medical Director, Clinical Pathology</p> <p><u>1/10/2025</u> Date</p> <p><i>Review/Revision Completed by:</i></p> <p><i>Joshua Otiso, Administrative Director, Lab</i></p>	<p>Policies Superseded by This Policy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <p>Initial effective date: 01/12/2009</p> <p>Review/Revision Date: 01/04/2025</p> <p>Next review date: 01/04/2027</p>
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