



Nursing Service Guidelines for Hemodialysis

Title: WEEKLY WATER/DIALYSATE CULTURE AND LAL SPECIMENS

Responsibility: Hemodialysis RN

Equipment: Sterile 30ml syringe
Sterile 10ml syringe
Chloraprep swabs
Specimen Container
LAL test tube
Spectra Lab specimen slip and shipping container

Procedure

Point of Emphasis

Dialysate Specimen

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| 1. Culture/LAL schedule list is located in the “Hemo Log” book. | All machines are done on a rotating basis. |
| 2. Cleanse sampling port on venous line of Hanson with Chloraprep swab in a circular motion starting at the center and wiping outward. | To cleanse bacteria off of port to prevent contamination of specimen. |
| 3. Withdraw 30 ml of dialysate and discard. | To draw off any contaminants in the sample port. |
| 4. Withdraw 10 ml of dialysate for specimen and place in sterile specimen cup or LAL specimen test tube. | Maintain sterility to prevent contamination of specimen. |
| 5. Complete Spectra Lab form, label specimen and prepare to ship | Specify machine #, if sample is dialysate or R/O water and if specimen for culture or LAL. Specimens that cannot be shipped immediately will need to be refrigerated. |

Water Specimen

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| 1. Culture/LAL schedule list is located in the “Hemo Log” book. | All stations are done on a rotating basis. |
| 2. Run water for 3 min. at a slow to mod. rate. In soiled and clean room, use portable hose to run water to drain and disconnect hose after the 3 min. flush. | To flush outlet of contaminants in the water system. |
| 3. Cleanse water outlet with Chloraprep swab. For R/O (reverse osmosis) units, soak dual line hose connection in solution of 10 parts water and 1 part bleach for 5 minutes | To cleanse bacteria off of outlet to prevent contamination of specimen. Rinse dual line hose connection and connector at end of dual line hose with R/O water after bleach water soak to remove residual bleach. |
| 4. Turn on water slowly and obtain a CCMS sample of R/O water (at least 10ml). For R/O unit, allow water to run for 15 minutes prior to obtaining CCMS sample from dual hose line (with dual hose connector connected). | Maintain sterility. |
| 5. Complete Spectra Lab form, label specimen and prepare to ship. | Be sure to specify station location and if specimen is R/O water or LAL. Specimens that cannot be shipped immediately will need to be refrigerated. . |

Revised by:

Resource Person:

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Approved: 3/96

Reviewed: 5/99, 7/02, 7/03, 7/05, 1/07, 4/08, 2/11, 5/14, 6/18, 4/21

Revised: 5/27/2011, 6/2015

Reviewed by Policy & Standard Committee, 5/11, 6/18, 4/21

References:

AMI Standards 2017