

Ref: FOI/GS/ID 8777

Please reply to:
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Freedom of Information Act 2000

I am writing in response to your request for information made under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 in relation to Blood Contamination.

You asked: All questions are shown as received by the Trust.

- 1. Prior to blood culture collection, what skin asepsis solution does your hospital/Trust/Health Board use in the skin preparation/ cleaning process - (a) licensed skin antiseptic applicator (b) licensed skin disinfection wipe (c) non licensed wipe (d) other?*
- 2. How long do you clean the patient's skin for and what technique is used?*
- 3. How long does your organisation allow the patients skin to dry before blood culture collection?*
- 4. Do you know the percentage of contamination rate of blood cultures in your organisation?*
- 5. What is the management process following a confirmed blood sample contamination. Is it escalation to (a) infection control team (b) microbiology (c) education and development (d) other, please specify or (e) no process?*

Trust response:

1. a) licenced applicator - Frepp / chlorprep applicator 2% chlorhexidine 70% alcohol
2. 30 second / cross hatch method
3. 30 seconds/ wait until is dry.
4. The rate is 7.8%
5.
 - 1st step- root cause analysis investigation from different members of the team
 - Check if member of staff has completed the blood cultures training in our Trust

- Meeting with the different team members involved to discuss results, check if it was avoidable or not and make a plan to avoid further contaminations if it was the case (example: teaching and training).