

Ref. No: 670
From: Consulting
Date: 28/04/23
Subject: IDS Blood Culture

REQUEST

In June 2022 NHS England published a document entitled 'Improving the blood culture pathway' which included a few recommendations regarding blood culture collection and data that should be collected and reported on at Board level. Can you please provide me with answers to the following questions:

1. Does your Trust have a process for skin preparation/cleaning prior to blood collection?

Yes

2. Do you take two sets of blood cultures each time as recommended in the guidance?

Yes

3. If no, what percentage of patients do have two sets of blood cultures taken?

N/A

4. Do you measure the volume of blood taken each time a blood culture is taken (the recommended amount is 20ml per sample)?

No

5. Do you measure the time between blood sample collection and the sample being loaded onto an analyser instrument (the recommended maximum time is four hours)?

Yes

6. If yes, what is the average time?

1.2 hrs

7. Do you collect data on blood sample contamination?

Yes

8. Is the data described above reported at Board level as recommended?

Yes