

Sampling of unit

1. All operators must wear sterile gloves and sampling should be carried out in a laminar flow cabinet if available. It is vital that environmental contaminants are not introduced when sampling units.
2. All equipment and reagents must be sterile.
3. Swab an unused administration port with 70% ethanol and leave to dry.
4. Insert a sample site coupler spike with needle injection site or equivalent into the port. This will enable the bag to be sampled with a sterile hypodermic needle and syringe, but still maintain the integrity of the bag.
5. Mix contents of the bag thoroughly prior to any sampling.
6. Swab injection site (rubber seal) of the sample site sampler spike with 70% ethanol, and leave to dry. Perform this for all further sampling procedures.
7. Sample the requisite volume from the bag using a sterile hypodermic syringe and needle.
8. In the event that less than 20ml is present in the unit add sterile saline with a sterile hypodermic syringe and needle to restore the volume to 20ml for enrichment culture (Note the volume injected before sampling).