

FOI_1499_2023-24 – FOI Request concerning Blood Contamination

- 1. Prior to blood culture collection, what skin asepsis solution does your hospital/Trust/Health Board use in the skin preparation/ cleaning process licensed skin antiseptic applicator**

Blood cultures are not routinely taken within Solent NHS Trust, the adult peripheral venesection policy states to Clean the patient's skin carefully for 30 seconds using a chlorhexidine 2% in 70% isopropyl; alcohol sterile wipe this is supplied via the supply chain. Aseptic/ non touch technique is used.

- a) licensed skin antiseptic applicator**
- b) licensed skin disinfection wipe**
- c) non licensed wipe**
- d) non licensed wipe**

- 2. How long do you clean the patient's skin for and what technique is used?**

The adult peripheral venesection policy states to Clean the patient's skin carefully for 30 seconds using a chlorhexidine 2% in 70% isopropyl

- 3. How long does your organisation allow the patients skin to dry before blood culture collection?**

N/a blood culture collection is not routine practice, venesection guidance is air dry for at least 30 secs

- 4. Do you know the percentage of contamination rate of blood cultures in your organisation?**

0% to date 23/24 year. Blood culture collection is not routine practice, contamination / positive isolates would be followed up via the process at point 5.

- 5. What is the management process following a confirmed blood sample contamination. Is it escalation to**

a) infection control – confirmed isolates in a blood sample are escalated to infection control via the lab/ trust who process our samples. Positive isolates / contamination are investigated under post infection review and patient safety incident process and advice is sought from the contracted microbiologist to the trust.

- b) microbiology**
- c) education and development**
- d) other, please specify or**
- e) no process?**