

- SOP No:** ATT 021
- SUBJECT:** Collection of blood from weaner and adult pigs from the cranial vena cava
- POLICY:** Minimum number of 2 operators required.
- Demonstrator:** Operators should be familiar with the correct techniques and the anatomy of pigs before attempting this procedure.
- Students:** Procedures should be clearly demonstrated before student attempts them. Students should be aware of the requirements for aseptic technique.
- PRECAUTIONS:** Sturdy covered footwear
- Operators must use gloves and disinfect them between animals to prevent the transmission of blood-borne diseases. Equipment (needles, syringes) must be replaced between animals.
- Wash hands and exposed body parts thoroughly with soap and water after handling pigs.
- No more than 3 attempts at venipuncture
- Adequately restrain the animal
- Follow instructions for each individual vaccine
- EQUIPMENT:** gauge 2.5-3.75 cm needles
Vacutainers
Vacutainer holders
Syringes if not using Vacutainers
Ear protection
- PROCEDURE:**
1. **Weaners** – Catch weaner by hind leg and place it on its back on top of bench as outlined under ‘restraint’ ([ATT022](#)). Find the thoracic groove in the sternum of the pig while its head is bent down and back whilst lying on its back. Insert needle into the jugular groove at 45° angle and aiming towards the pig’s midline until blood appears in needle.
 2. **Adults** – Pig is restrained with snout snare as set out in PPSAS001 by handler. With pig standing or sitting upright, aim the needle straight up into thoracic inlet.
 3. After blood has been collected, withdraw needle swiftly in straight line and place a finger over the insertion point to encourage blood clotting.
 4. Release pig and change needles etc before bleeding next animal and dispose of used needles into sharps container.
 5. On completion of procedure observe animal for signs of excessive distress.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

DATE ISSUED: **24.06.2009**

REVISED:

REFERENCES

1. **Wolfensohn, S & Lloyd, M 1998**, *Handbook of laboratory animal management and welfare*, Blackwell Science.p 79.
2. <http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/agriculture/livestock/animal-welfare/general/other/livestock/sop/pigs/blood-collection>