

**Berkshire Medical Center  
School of Medical Laboratory Science**

Course Syllabus

Course No. : MEDT 411  
Course Title: Phlebotomy

Credits: 0

**Description:**

Introduces students to the essentials of phlebotomy. Students learn the basic anatomy and physiology of the blood draw. Discusses proper procedure for various collections, legal and ethical issues, importance of confidentiality, pre-analytical factors, safety and handling, patient interaction. Students apply this information in the clinical setting using current techniques and procedures.

Primary Didactic Instructor: Program Director  
413-447-2580

Clinical organizers: Program Director  
413-447-2580

Kathy Lavinio  
[klavinio@bhs1.org](mailto:klavinio@bhs1.org)  
413-496-6895

Additional Instructors: Director of IV therapy  
Blood Bank Supervisor  
Outpatient Phlebotomy Supervisor  
Inpatient/Outpatient phlebotomy staff

**Required text:** None.

Reference texts:

The Lab Draw Answer Book, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition, Dennis Ernst, Catherine Ernst, 2017  
Phlebotomy Handbook, 9<sup>th</sup> edition, Diana Garza, Kathleen, Becan-McBride, 2015  
The Textbook of Phlebotomy, 3<sup>rd</sup> ed., S. Strasinger, 2011  
Phlebotomy Essentials, 5<sup>th</sup> ed., Ruth McCall & Cathee Tankersley, 2012.

\*\*Assigned reading: phlebotomy articles provided

Lecture: 4 scheduled lectures  
Program Director: Phlebotomy basics, lab specimen collection  
Director of IV therapy: Inpatient phlebotomy  
Blood Bank supervisor: Identification of patient  
Laboratory: ~ 2 week clinical rotation with outpatient and inpatient training  
\*\*See individual student schedule for dates

## **Course Goals and Objectives**

Based on the didactic material student will score a 75% or above on the phlebotomy exam to achieve competency. The students will score a “Pass” or “Fail” on clinical instruction to demonstrate competency of the following:

Upon completion of the Phlebotomy clinical and didactic course the student will:

1. Develop a basic knowledge of the anatomy and physiology of the arm and hand.
2. Explain the principles of each phlebotomy technique used (venipuncture, fingerstick, heel stick, blood culture collection, etc).
3. Explain the importance of quality control and apply it to good phlebotomy practice.
4. State some of the most common pre-analytical errors that occur and describe the effect they have on laboratory testing.
5. Determine appropriate specimen collection, processing, and transport of specimens by following established procedures and resolve issues as they arise.
6. Discuss the importance of patient identification.
7. Discuss the importance of infection control, safety, and disposal of material.
8. Assess patients’ available veins and select most appropriate site.
9. Perform phlebotomy procedures following established guidelines.
10. Differentiate tube type and use appropriate order of draw.
11. Discuss legal and ethical issues as they relate to blood collection.
12. Describe some adverse phlebotomy outcomes and select the best method to handle the situation.
13. Organize workflow for efficiency in specimen collection.
14. Practice established confidentiality guidelines.
15. Demonstrate professional and ethical conduct with all healthcare professionals, consumers, patients, and other laboratory students.

## **Basis for Student Evaluation**

Lecture evaluation will consist of 1 exam. The clinical laboratory evaluation consists of an evaluation by clinical trainers as to the acceptable performance of the student. This course has a pass/fail grading system. This course is not eligible for college credits.

## **Affective behaviors**

### Didactic

Following appropriate training, during didactic instruction the student will:

1. Exhibit professional behavior during didactic instruction.
2. Attend lectures in a timely manner.
3. Respect other students and members of the laboratory.
4. Contribute to a positive learning environment.
5. Demonstrate an interest in the subject matter.
6. Comply with hospital and laboratory dress code and personal appearance policies.
7. Comply with institutional policies concerning safety.
8. Cooperate when situations arise and there is a necessary change in lecture schedule.

### Clinical

Following appropriate training, during clinical instruction the student will:

1. Comply with all hospital, laboratory, and school policies.
2. Demonstrate phone etiquette using BMC customer service standards.
3. Maintain a neat, clean, and orderly work area in the Chemistry department.
4. Value the advice and opinion of others.
5. Accept responsibility for his/her own actions.
6. Be dependable and punctual for the clinical experience.
7. Organize his/her time to complete assignments and daily training.
8. Accept constructive criticism and use it as a tool for improved performance.
9. Establish a good rapport with co-workers and uphold the concept of teamwork.