

## MDLB 1991, LABORATORY PRACTICUM - EVALUATION OF NATIONAL COMPETENCIES

# Introductory Skill-Training Activities

### **Rationale:**

These activities occur during the orientation period in the first few days of the practicum placement and provide the student with the opportunity to practise certain skills before beginning their training on patients.

### **Lesson Guides:**

The activity lesson guides provide preceptors with a systematic approach for training students to practise important skills before meeting with patients.

### **Activity 1: Use of training arm**

The training arm offers new phlebotomists the opportunity to get a feel for the texture, density and shape of skin and veins. Students have unlimited opportunities to practise and perfect proper techniques providing them with essential venipuncture practice and confidence. At least six pokes on the training arms should occur. TRU has training arms available, if needed.

### **Activity 2: Venipuncture on volunteers**

The first poke by students should never be performed on a patient. Staff must be willing to volunteer their arms to new students to gain experience with the first poke. Four pokes on volunteers are required.

### **Activity 3: Labelling blood tubes**

The consequences of mislabelling can be devastating for patients. Discussing the potential consequences of mislabelling sample tubes is not appropriate for bedside training, and as such this information is included as a pre-practicum activity.

### **Exemptions:** (indicate reason for exemption on checklists)

- Use of training arm and Venipuncture on volunteers: working MLAs or those with recent phlebotomy training
- Labelling blood tubes: working MLAs

### **Checklists:**

Checklists and sign off are included in the Competency Manual between the Course Guide and Module A.

### **For Preceptors:**

This information is available as an appendix in the Preceptor Handbook and on TRU-OL's website MLA National Certificate and on the program web page at [www.truopen.ca/mlan](http://www.truopen.ca/mlan).