

# Routine Practices

---

Education for Health Care Staff

## Specimen Collection

### Sharps Safety and Prevention of Bloodborne Transmission

#### **SPECIMEN COLLECTION**

- All specimens are considered potentially infectious and should be handled carefully
- Specimens must be packaged to prevent spillage, breakage or damage
- Collection process:
  - Assemble supplies
  - Perform Hand Hygiene
  - Apply PPE if required or if splashing is anticipated
  - The specimen must:
    - be labelled,
    - transported correctly
    - have their requisitions filled out according to laboratory policies and procedures
  - After collection remove PPE. Perform hand hygiene after the specimen has been placed in the specimen bag

#### **SHARPS SAFETY AND PREVENTION OF BLOODBORNE TRANSMISSION**

- Users of sharps require education and training on how to safely handle sharps and prevent injury
- Use safety engineered devices whenever possible
- Do not recap used needles
- Handle used needles and other sharps with care
- Dispose of used needles and sharps into designated puncture-resistant containers
- Follow Routine Practices when splashes with blood and/or body fluids are anticipated

