

**Measuring Hemoglobin with Hemocue**

**A. PURPOSE OF PROCEDURE:**

The following is a standardized process to measure hemoglobin using HemoCue for the most safe and accurate results.

**B. SCOPE OF THE PROCEDURE:**

The following provides the steps for a blood-draw using HemoCue.

**C. GENERAL PROCEDURE:**

The specific steps below should be followed during every finger prick for hemoglobin screening using HemoCue.

**Step      ACTION**

1	Assemble equipment: Remove a cuvette from the vial, lancet, gauze, alcohol swab, bandage and immediately replace cap tightly on vial.
2	Put on disposable gloves. Wear new gloves for each client.
3	Clean applicant’s finger by rubbing with 70% isopropanol. Allow to dry. Recommended puncture sites for infants are the lateral and medial portion of the plantar surface of the heel and for children and women the ring or middle finger.
4	Hold the applicant’s hand, and use a sterile lancet to puncture skin quickly and firmly, deep enough for blood to flow freely.
5	Wipe away the first three good-sized drops of blood with dry gauze. Do not “milk” finger.
6	Introduce the cuvette tip into the middle of the fourth drop of blood. Fill the entire yellow area. Never top off a cuvette after filling
7	Cover skin prick with a dry gauze and apply pressure.
8	Wipe off excess blood from both sides and back of the cuvette using the “butter knife” wipe technique but avoid touching the opened end (curved edge) of the cuvette to prevent drawing blood back out of the cuvette.
9	Are there air bubbles in the cuvette? If yes, repeat steps 6-7 with new cuvette. If no, go to step 10.
10	Insert filled cuvette in the HemoCue holder and push in completely.
11	Discard the lancet and cuvette in a puncture-resistant container.
12	Apply bandage. (Due to the risk of choking, it is not recommended to apply a bandage to a child less than 2 years old. )
13	Remove and discard gloves. Wash hands or use approved hand sanitizer.
14	Record results in the data system and explain the results.