

INSTRUCTIONS FOR SMALLPOX VACCINATION WITH BIFURCATED NEEDLE

INDEXED

1. Method for vaccination with the bifurcated needle - MULTIPUNCTURE technique.
2. Site of vaccination - outer aspect of upper arm over the insertion of deltoid muscle.
3. Preparation of skin - none. If site is obviously dirty, a cloth moistened with water may be used to wipe the site.
4. Withdrawal of vaccine from ampoule. A sterile bifurcated needle (which must be cool if flamed or completely dry if boiled) is inserted into the ampoule of reconstituted vaccine. On withdrawal, a droplet of vaccine, sufficient for vaccination is contained within the fork of the needle.
5. Application of vaccine to the skin. The needle is held at a 90° angle (perpendicular) to the skin. (See figure.) The wrist of the vaccinator rests against the arm. The points are touched lightly to the skin surface permitting the droplet of vaccine to be deposited on the skin. For both primovaccination and revaccination, 15 up and down (perpendicular) strokes of the needle are rapidly made in the area of about 5 mm in diameter (through the drop of vaccine deposited on the skin). The strokes should be sufficiently vigorous so that a trace of blood appears at the vaccination site. If a trace of blood does not appear, the strokes have not been sufficiently vigorous and the procedure should be repeated. Although it is desirable not to induce frank bleeding, the proportion of successful takes is not reduced if bleeding does occur.
6. No dressing should be used after vaccination.
7. Sterilization of needle may be done by flaming or boiling.
 - (a) Flaming - the needle is passed through the flame of a spirit lamp. It should not remain in the flame for more than 3 seconds. The needle must be allowed to cool completely before inserting into vaccine ampoule.
 - (b) Boiling - the needle is sterilized by boiling for 20 minutes. Subsequently, the needle must be dried thoroughly to ensure that the fork of the needle does not contain a drop of water when inserted into the vaccine ampoule.
8. Unused, reconstituted freeze-dried vaccine should be discarded at the end of each working day.

MULTIPUNCTURE VACCINATION BY BIFURCATED NEEDLE

