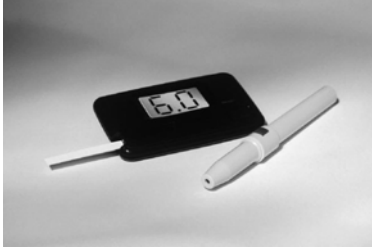


SKIN PUNCTURE





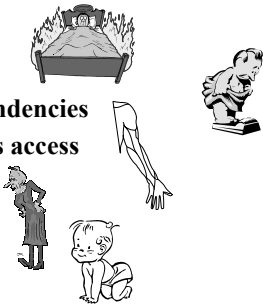
OBJECTIVES

- Describe reasons for performing skin punctures
- Identify proper sites for skin punctures
- Describe the correct techniques for skin puncture
- Perform finger sticks
- Practice blood smears



Indications for skin puncture

- Severe burns
- Obesity
- Thrombotic tendencies
- Limited venous access
- Geriatrics
- Pediatrics
- Fragile veins
- Home testing



Composition of Skin Puncture Blood

Arterial pressure is stronger than venous pressure

Skin puncture blood more like arterial blood than venous blood



Red Blood Cell

Skin Puncture Sites

- **Finger**
 - nondominant hand
 - distal portion
 - second, third, fourth finger
- **Heel**
 - plantar surface
 - medial or lateral



Site preparation & procedure

- **Equipment**
- **Warming**
- **Cleaning**
- **Skin puncture**



Blood Smears

- Venous or capillary blood
- Fresh sample
- Feathered edge
- WBC differential
- RBC morphology



Red Blood Cell