Catheter Specimens

**Specimen Types**
Vascular cannulae, central venous pressure (CVP) lines, umbilical, intravenous (IV), or Swan Ganz catheters, etc.

**Unacceptable Specimens**
- Foley catheters
- Specimens not transported immediately to Lab (within one hour of collection)

**Materials Needed**
1. Alcohol preps
2. Sterile scissors
3. Sterile screw cap container

**Specimen Collection**
1. Cleanse skin with alcohol prep.
2. Submit one segment, 2-3 inches long including tip, by cutting the catheter with sterile scissors just inside what was the skin interface and allowing the tip to fall into a sterile screw cap container.
3. Transport to Laboratory STAT. Specimen should be plated by the Lab within one hour of collection.