

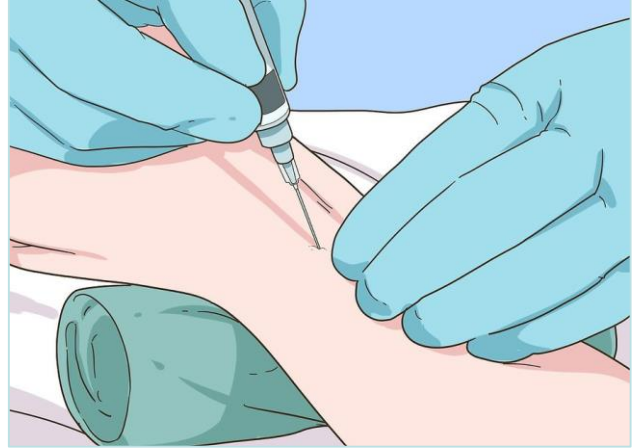
Now I Know My ABGs

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Mechanics & Logistics

- The ABG syringe is prefilled with dry heparin and set to the correct amount to draw
- High risk patients should always have collateral circulation checked
- The recommended angle to obtain a sample is 45 degrees
- At Brigham, samples do not need to be transported on ice, but you should record a patient's temperature for the lab to be aware of fevers



ABG Analysis

Normal Values: **Memorize them**

- pH 7.35 – 7.45
- paCO_2 35 - 45
- HCO_3 22 – 26

Mnemonic:

R espiratory

Acidosis pH ↓ paCO_2 ↑

O pposite

Alkalosis pH ↑ paCO_2 ↓

M etabolic

Acidosis pH ↓ HCO_3 ↓

E qual

Alkalosis pH ↑ HCO_3 ↑

communication

learning together

collaboration