

# Product Information

## VACUETTE® Tourniquets

The **VACUETTE®** Tourniquet may be used to help find a site for venepuncture and features one handed use with a quick release buckle.

### Tourniquet material

Many patients are allergic to latex, thus the **VACUETTE®** Tourniquet is latex-free. For cleaning purposes, soak in a disinfectant solution recommended for medical instruments, in accordance to solution guidelines or clean in a washing machine for medical instruments (80 °C).

Materials:

- Case: (PC) Polycarbonate
- Function Keys: (POM) Polyoxymethylene
- Tourniquet band: Polyester/ Lycra



### Tourniquet handling

**VACUETTE®** Tourniquets are used in specimen collection to apply enough pressure to the arm to slow the return of venous blood to the heart. This slowing of venous return causes pooling of blood in the veins, which makes the vein more visible and easier to feel and find. A tourniquet should not restrict arterial blood flowing into the arm.

Place the **VACUETTE®** Tourniquet approximately a hands width (7.5cm) above the anticipated puncture site. The **VACUETTE®** Tourniquet should not cause the patient any pain. It should be tight enough to restrict venous blood flow, but not impede arterial blood flow. 20 - 30 mmHg under the systolic blood pressure is recommended. i.e. in healthy patients with a systolic blood pressure of 120 - 130 mmHg, the pressure should be under 100 mmHg.

The duration that the **VACUETTE®** Tourniquet is in place should not exceed 1 minute (risk falsifying results due to haemoconcentration). When more time is required, the tourniquet must be released so that blood flow can resume and normal skin colour returns to the extremities.

When skin colour visibly changes to a bluish colour, release the tourniquet immediately and do not reapply until normal colour has returned. Under no circumstance should the **VACUETTE®** Tourniquet be left in place for more than one minute. In cases where blood flow is inadequate for collection, lightly reapply the tourniquet whilst performing blood collection.

As soon as blood begins to flow into the **VACUETTE®** Blood Collection Tube, release the tourniquet. Should the blood flow lighten substantially, tighten the tourniquet on the arm again for a short period of time.

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