


Going to the Hospital to Have My Blood Checked





Many people have to get their blood checked when a doctor needs more information to take care of them.

Some people call this “getting a blood draw”.

I will read this book and practice all of the steps so that I will be ready to have my blood checked.



When I need a blood draw, I go to Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center. When I go to the hospital, I meet nice people who help me with my blood draw.



This is where I go to sign in to let the lab staff know that I am ready. I wait until they call my name.

I meet a medical assistant. A medical assistant is the friendly person who helps with my blood draw.





I sit in a chair or on someone's lap.



The phlebotomist wraps a stretchy blue band around my arm. It feels like a tight squeeze.



She looks at my arm with her eyes and touches my arm with her fingers. She is looking for my biggest vein. Some people call my vein a blue line.



I hold out my arm so the medical assistant can clean my skin where the blood draw will be. The special soap feels cool on my skin.



The medical assistant may use a spray so I do not feel the blood draw as much. The spray feels very cold.



The medical assistant gently slides a tiny needle under my skin. I think this feels like a small pinch. I can see a small soft straw attached to the needle.

The blood goes into a little, clear tube. Sometimes more than one tube of blood is needed. My body makes new blood when I need more.



I try to keep my arm very still. Someone may help me keep my arm still.



I can watch the medical assistant or choose to look at something else in the room. I can help keep my body calm and still by taking deep breaths.



The medical assistant gently removes the tube and puts a band-aid on my arm. An adult will tell me when I can take my band-aid off.



When I am finished, I can leave. I am proud that I sat very still.