

Test Procedures: Obtaining blood samples for Immunogenetic tests.

Generally, there is no intention of deliberately killing the animal by any of these means. Even heart puncture in rabbits, for example, is supposed to result in death only 5% of the time. Small mammals such as guinea pigs, hamsters and mice are more easily bled after anaesthesia. However, rabbits and chickens reputedly have greater losses if anaesthesia is used.

Many methods are known and used. Demonstrations save prolonged descriptions! The following are among those preferred:

1. Intracardially-used on all species smaller than turkeys - preferred when large quantities are needed. Strap down or restraining boards are used if the operator works alone or if the assistants are not skilled in holding the animals. For rabbits and chickens an 18 gauge $1\frac{1}{2}$ " needle (Huber point preferred) is used on a 50 ml syringe; and fifty ml of blood can be removed from adult rabbits and chickens normal sized or larger. This was in 1948. After 1954 alternative methods could be used.
2. From the jugular vein - used on cattle, sheep, horses, goats, hogs and Gallinaceous poultry (not ducks nor pigeons). Large quantities (3-5 liters) are obtained from cattle by use of vacuum bottles and double needle rubber hoses.
3. From the arm (brachial or wing vein) - used in humans and birds. Needle and syringe may be used; or in birds only, the vein may be sliced across near the elbow and the blood allowed to drop into a tube.
4. From the ear - used on rabbits only, although it should work on hogs and cattle for small amounts using needle and syringe. In rabbits xylol is put on the ear if much is wanted, then the marginal ear vein is sliced about $1/2$ " along its length. The flow toward the heart is stopped by thumb and finger pressure and the blood dropped into tubes.
5. By toe or tail clip - used on small birds or rodents. Good for small amounts only.