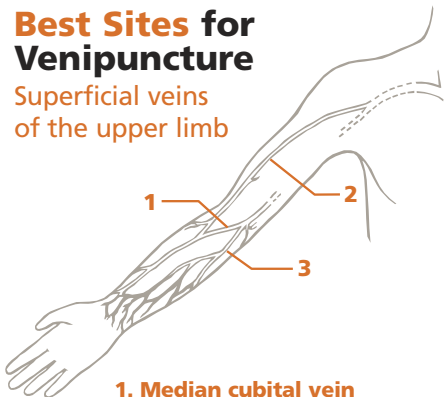


## Best Sites for Venipuncture

Superficial veins  
of the upper limb



### 1. Median cubital vein

A superficial vein, most commonly used for venipuncture, it lies over the cubital fossa and serves as an anastomosis between the cephalic and basilic veins.

### 2. Cephalic vein

Shown in both forearm and arm, it can be followed proximally where it empties into the axillary vein.

### 3. Basilic vein

Shown in the forearm and arm, it divides to join the brachial vein.

## BD Diagnostics

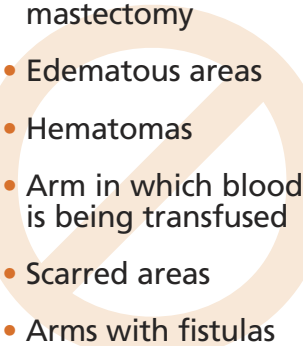
Preanalytical Systems

BD Global Technical Services 1.800.631.0174

BD Customer Service 1.888.237.2762

[www.bd.com/vacutainer](http://www.bd.com/vacutainer)

## Inappropriate Sites for Venipuncture

- 
- A large, light-colored circle with a diagonal slash through it, indicating that the following list of sites is prohibited for venipuncture.
- Arm on side of mastectomy
  - Edematous areas
  - Hematomas
  - Arm in which blood is being transfused
  - Scarred areas
  - Arms with fistulas or vascular grafts
  - Sites above an IV cannula

Follow your facility's  
phlebotomy procedures.

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