COMMONLY USED SITES FOR BLOOD WITHDRAWAL FROM LABORATORY ANIMALS

Species	Heart ¹	Cephalic Vein	Saphenous Vein	Femoral Artery/Vein	Jugular Vein	Ear Artery/Vein	Tail Artery/Vein	Orbital Sinus ^{1,5}	Wing Vein	Tail or Toe Clippings ⁶
Dog	Х	X	X	X	Х		·			
Cat	Х	Х	X	Х	Х					
Rat	X 1" 22ga		X ² 3/4" 25ga	X ²	X ²		X ⁴ ½" 25ga	Х		Х
Mouse	X 3/4" 25ga			X^2	X ²		X ½" 27ga	Х		Х
Hamster	X 3/4" 25ga			χ^2				Х		Х
Rabbit	X 1 ½" 16ga			X ²	X ²	X 1" 23ga				
Guinea Pig	X 1 ½" 22ga	X ½" 27ga	X 3/4" 27ga	X ²	X ²					Х
Chicken	Χ								Х	
Monkey	Х	Х	X	X	Х					
Pig				Х	X^3	Х				

Acceptable only if the animal is under anesthesia.

Usually requires a skin incision. Subject must be anesthetized. Needle size may vary from ½" 25ga to 1" 22ga.

Anterior venous sinus at thoracic inlet 1 ½-2" 18ga.

Difficult to master.

Microhematocrit tubes (heparinized); drawn Pasteur pipette.

Method is not preferred because sample contains tissue fluid and may require anesthesia and/or post procedure care.