

# Peripheral IV Insertion Standards

## VEIN LEVEL ASSESSMENT

### Level 1:

Visible, easy to palpate, large in size

### Level 2:

Visible, easy to palpate, moderate in size, previous IV site

### Level 3:

Visible, easy to palpate, small size, previous IV site, limited veins (some sclerosed)

### Level 4:

Difficult to see, can be palpated, age > 70, previous therapy has resulted in poor veins

### Level 5:

Vein not visible, cannot be palpated, may require multiple techniques

## PERIPHERAL IV INSERTION BUNDLE

1. Match operator skill to vein level assessment
2. Change operator after 2 attempts
3. Hand hygiene then don gloves (PPE)
4. Clip hair (don't shave) if necessary
5. 30 second scrub: 2% chlorhexidine/70% alcohol; air dry one minute
6. Ensure **no touch after cleaning** (if touch is required, sterile gloves must be worn and aseptic technique maintained).
7. Document in graphic record. Include confirmation of compliance (aseptic) bundle.
8. If inserted under imperfect conditions (e.g. resuscitation), \* and DAR and notify team to change site as soon as possible
9. Access all ports and maintain dressings aseptically.

## Infiltration Scale \*DAR if >0

- 0 No symptoms
- 1 **Skin blanched**  
Edema < 2.5 cm in any direction, cool to touch, with or without pain
- 2 **Skin blanched**  
Edema 2.5 – 15 cm in any direction, cool to touch, with or without pain
- 3 **Skin blanched, translucent**  
Gross Edema > 15 cm in any direction, cool to touch, mild-moderate pain, possible numbness
- 4 **Skin blanched, translucent**  
Skin tight, leaking, skin discolored, bruised, swollen, gross edema > 15 cm in any direction, deep pitting tissue edema, circulatory impairment, moderate – severe pain, infiltration of any amount of blood product, irritant, or vesicant

## PHLEBITIS SCALE

- 1+ Pain at Site
- 2+ Pain and redness at site
- 3+ Pain, redness and swelling at site with palpable cord of less than 7.5 cm
- 4+ Pain, redness and swelling at site with palpable cord of 7.5 cm or greater

# Infiltration Scale \*DAR if >0

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Edema < 2.5 cm in any direction, cool to touch, with or without pain

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**3 Skin blanched, translucent**

Gross Edema > 15 cm in any direction, cool to touch, mild-moderate pain, possible numbness

**4 Skin blanched, translucent**

Skin tight, leaking, skin discolored, bruised, swollen, gross edema > 15 cm in any direction, deep pitting tissue edema, circulatory impairment, moderate – severe pain, infiltration of any amount of blood product, irritant, or vesicant