

MC-004183

Right Line, Right Now!

Ultrasound in Vascular Access



Disclaimer

"This information is provided for clinical education purposes and is not intended to be a substitute for sound clinical judgment or decision making, or professional experience relative to diagnostic and treatment options of a specific patient's medical condition. Users should review the Instructions For Use for detailed information regarding the Instructions For Use, Contraindications, Potential Adverse Events, Warnings, and Cautions prior to using the device."



Course Objectives

- 1. Discuss vascular access device selection for the right patient at the right time
- 2. Outline device options for vascular access in emergent, urgent, and medically necessary situations
- 3. Review anatomical characteristics and locations for device insertion, nerve, artery, and vein structures
- 4. Review guidelines for ultrasound use during vascular access procedures



Emergent Vascular Access

Right Line, *Right* Patient, *Right* Time





Right Line¹

- Educate and train all staff involved in vascular access practices¹
- Selection of the device that is most appropriate for therapy and preserves vessel health
- Insert the smallest device with the least amount of lumens required for therapy¹
- Insert the appropriate device using evidence-based guidelines

Right Patient

- Evaluation of patient risk factors and need
 - Acute
 - Chronic
 - Previous Medical History
 - Patient Assessment
 - Assessment of vascular anatomy
 - Laboratory values
 - Exit site considerations
 - Risk/Benefit
 - Therapy
 - Unit outcomes²





Right Time^{1,5}

- Insertion of device in a timely manner to avoid delay in treatment
- Daily assessment and goals for device necessity
- Prompt removal of the device when no longer used

General Recommendations

The goals of the device selection process are to use the least invasive device with the lowest risk of complications and to use a device that will last for the duration of the therapy or one that may be managed with minimal replacement.

- The Vascular Access Device (VAD) selected is of the smallest outer diameter with the fewest number of lumens and is the least invasive device for the prescribed therapy ¹
- Use a single lumen catheter unless multiple ports are essential for the management of the patient ²
- "Choice of the smallest gauge possible, ideally with a catheter-to-vein ratio of 45% (thrombosis prevention) ^{3,5}



General Recommendations

The vascular device assessment is not a static process; it is a dynamic process which requires the frequent reassessment of the patient as needs may suddenly change.¹

- Complete the daily re-assessment of the line to determine IV device necessity¹
- Short-term peripheral catheters that need to be in place for > 5 days should not be routinely changed if no evidence of infection is observed²
- Prompt removal of the IV device when no longer needed²

Peripheral vs. Central Lines: Definition

Peripheral Vascular Access Device:

 Catheter tip located in peripheral vein



Central Venous Access Device (CVAD):

• Catheter tip located in the lower third of superior vena cava at or above the cavoatrial junction





Protected Technology Device Selection⁵



Gorski L, Hadaway L, Hagle M, McGoldrick M, Orr M, Doellman D. Infusion Therapy Standards of Practice. J Inf Nurs. 2016;39(1S):S1-S159

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Peripheral vs. Central Line



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Right Line, Right Now!



We Should Not Persist With "Default" Option



Photo Courtesy Tim Jackson, MD. Used with permission







We Should Not Persist With "Default" Option



Photo Courtesy Steven Hill. Used with permission.



Ultrasound-Guided Venous Access





Benefits of Ultrasound

Ultrasound reduces insertion risks by allowing:

- Clear visualization of veins during access
- · Assessment of vein diameter to determine vein to catheter ratio
- · Assessment of vessel health to include blood flow and compressibility
- · Location of the best site for venipuncture
- Identification of potentially problematic anatomic issues and venous anomalies that may contraindicate site selection





Identifying differences of veins and arteries

Both circular black structures

- Veins:
 - Easily compressible
 - Should not be pulsatile
 - Thinner walls
- Arteries:
 - Pulsate
 - Difficult to compress
 - Arterial walls appear thicker





Nerves

- Lies near the brachial artery
- Appears as "cauliflower" bundle near the brachial artery
- Identify nerves prior to cannulation
- Assess for post insertion pain





Rapid Assessment of Peripheral Venous Anatomy

Prior to insertion identify:

- Vein patency
- Appropriate size/depth of vessel
- Pathway and blood flow in vessel
- Catheter length to tissue depth proportion
- Location of surrounding anatomical structures

After insertion recognize:

- Continued patency of vein
- Catheter related vessel thrombosis





Rapid Assessment of Central Venous Anatomy

- The RaCeVA Protocol allows for a systematic approach for rapid assessment of the central veins using ultrasound guidance, not only to exclude venous abnormalities such as:
 - Thrombosis
 - External compression
 - Anatomical variation of size and shape
- But also aides the clinician in a full evaluation for optimum site selection and to choose the best approach.





Visualizing the Needle





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