

Clinical Learning Guide
Administration of Intramuscular
Injection

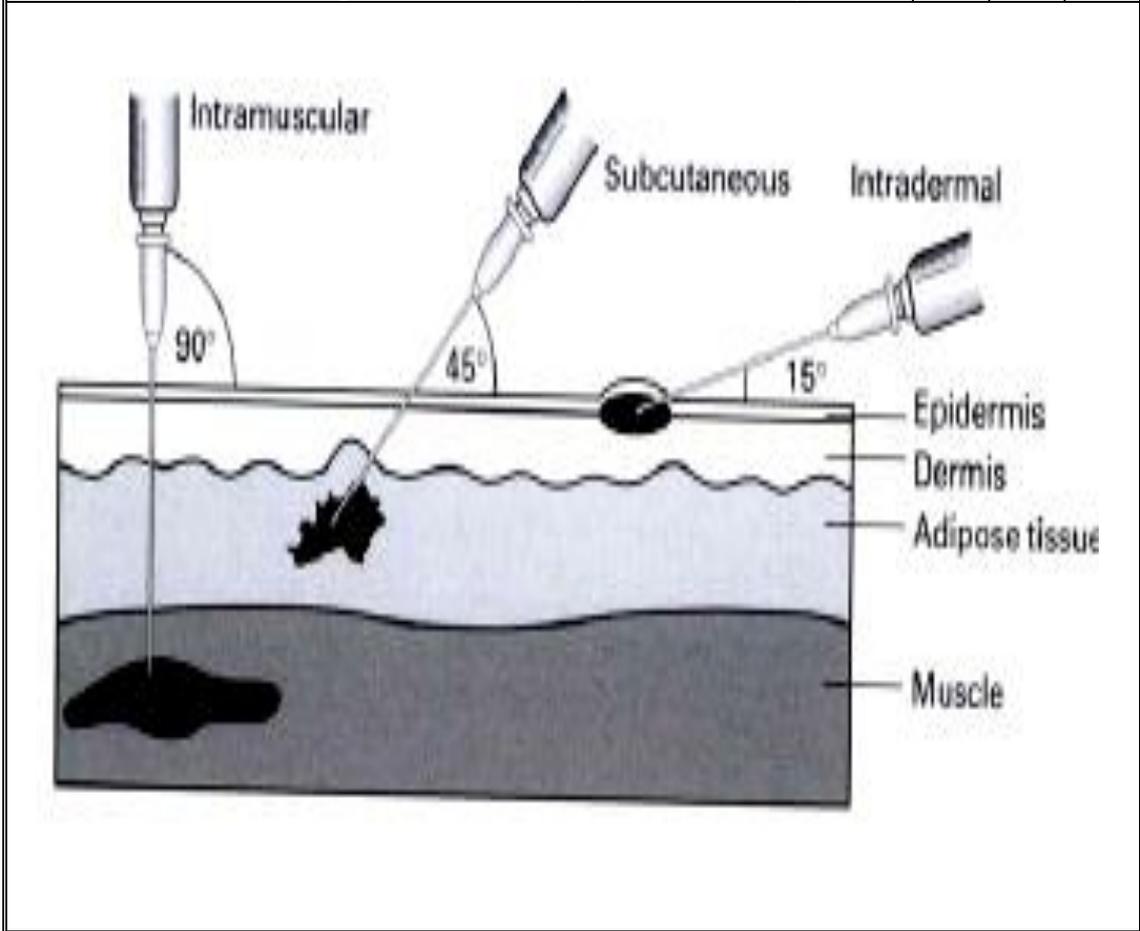
STEP/TASK	AP	IP	NP
Equipment needed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prescribed medication • Sterile syringes and needles • Sterile alcohol swabs. • Dry cotton-wool ball 			
Getting ready			
1. Gather necessary equipment.			
2. Introduce yourself to the patient, tell the patient what is going to be done.			
3. Wash your hands thoroughly with soap and water and dry with a clean dry cloth (or air dry).			
4. Wear sterile gloves (Optional).			
procedure			
1. Draw up the prescribed medication for injection into the syringe: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • By inserting the needle tip until it touches the bottom of the bottle or vial containing the medication for injection. • Then pull the plunger of the syringe to draw up the volume of medication required. • Withdraw the needle and syringe from the bottle or vial and expel air bubbles, if present. • Recap the needle. 			
2. Check that the drug and dose are correct.			
3. Provide for privacy; position and cover patient.			
4. Select the appropriate site for injection: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quadriceps muscle group of the upper outer thigh; OR • Upper, outer quadrant of the gluteus muscle group in the buttock; OR • Deltoid muscle group (for immunizations). 			
5. Cleanse injection site with alcohol swab using a circular motion starting at the center and moving outwards for about 5 cm.			
6. Remove needle cover.			
7. With your free hand, slightly stretch the skin at the site of injection.			
8. Quickly insert needle at a 90° using a smooth motion.			
9. Withdraw the plunger slightly to ensure that the needle is not in a vein: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If the needle is properly placed, inject the medication slowly with steady pressure for three to five seconds. • If blood enters needle: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Remove the needle without injecting the medication and apply pressure using cotton-wool – Place a new, sterile needle on the syringe; – Choose a new site for injection and repeat the procedure. 			
10. Withdraw the needle in a single smooth motion after			

completing the injection, and apply gentle pressure with a dry cotton-wool ball.

Post procedure tasks

1. Dispose the needle and syringe into the proper receptacle, do not recap the used needle.

2. Wash hands with soap and water and dry with a clean dry cloth.



AP = Adequately Performed

IP = Inadequately Performed

NP = Not Performed