

Clinical Learning Guide Intravenous Injection

STEP/TASK	AP	IP	NP
Collect Equipment needed			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prescribed medication • Sterile syringes • Sterile alcohol swabs. • Dry cotton-wool ball • Adhesive tapes 			
Sites			
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The forearm veins are usually best. 2. The dorsum of the hand 3. Foot veins are a last resort. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use the patient's Non-dominant hand if possible so it minimizes disruption to his activities. 			
Select a vein			
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Palpable 2. Runs straight for a few centimeters 3. Away from joints 			
Getting ready			
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Introduce yourself to the patient 2. Confirm their identity 3. Explain what you are about to do 4. Obtain consent. 			
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. Wash your hands thoroughly with soap and water and dry with a clean dry cloth (or air dry). 6. Put your gloves on 7. Ensure that the arm is 'hanging down 8. Make sure that it is warm 9. Ask the patient to open and close his fist a few times 			
Preparation			
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Apply a tourniquet 2. Swab around the entry site with one downwards sweep. 			
Procedure			
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Inform the patient that he will experience a sharp scratch. 			
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Pull the skin back distal to your entry site 			
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Introduce the needle into the vein at a shallow angle with the bevel facing upwards 			
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. Pierce the skin and vessel wall in one swift maneuver 			
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. A change in resistance is felt as the needle enters the 			

vein			
6. Pull back the plunger to identify that the needle is in a vein a small amount of dark red venous blood should trickle into the syringe			
7. Once you see the flashback, flatten the needle (more flush with the skin)			
8. Remove the tourniquet.			
9. Inject slowly to reduce the likelihood of damage to the vein and to lower the overdose risk			
10. Always inject with the blood flow, i.e. towards the heart.			
11. Do not flush out this will significantly increase trauma to the vein			
12. Remove the needle slowly if the needle is removed too quickly, the vein may collapse			
13. Immediately apply pressure to the site, bruising is caused by bleeding into the surrounding tissues. Immediate firm pressure will limit the amount of bruising caused.			
Post procedure tasks			
1. Dispose sharps			
2. Thank the patient			