

Clinical Learning Guide Intravenous Cannulation

STEP/TASK	AP	IP	NP
Collect Equipment needed			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prescribed medication • Infusion sets • Sterile syringes • Iv Cannula • 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. • Use the patient's Non-dominant hand if possible so it minimizes disruption to their 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 their arm is 'hanging down 8. Make sure that it is warm 9. Ask the patient to open and close his fist a few times 10. Gently tap the venepuncture site with two fingers. 			
Preparation			
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Apply a tourniquet 2. Swab around the entry site with one downwards sweep. 			
Prepare the cannula			
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Take the cannula and remove the plastic sheath covering the needle 2. Open the plastic wings and loosen the white cap without removing it completely 			
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 an angle of around 30° to the skin, 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. Once the needle is in the vein, you will see a 'flashback' of blood into the barrel of the needle 			
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 6. Once you see the flashback, flatten the needle (more flush 			

with the skin) and slide the cannula further forward			
7. Slide the cannula further forwards into the vein, whilst at the same time retracting the needle			
8. Remove the tourniquet .			
9. Take hold of the white cap			
10. Remove the needle whilst pressing on the area of vein that you have just cannulated			
11. Screw the white cap onto the end of the cannula			
Post procedure tasks			
1. Dispose sharps			
2. Wipe off any blood			
3. Secure your cannula with the adhesive dressing			
4. Flush the cannula with saline. The saline should run easily into the vein			
5. Attach the giving set of the intravenous fluid to the cannula			
6. Thank the patient			