



ARROWHEAD REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER
Department of Nursing Policies and Procedures

Policy No. 580.30 Issue 1
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SECTION: V. GENERAL NURSING POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

SUBJECT: ULTRASOUND GUIDED-PERIPHERAL INTRAVENOUS CATHETER INSERTION

APPROVED BY: _____

Chief Nursing Officer

POLICY

Registered Nurses with documented competency may insert ultrasound guided peripheral IV for patients with difficult intravenous access.

PROCEDURES

I. REQUIREMENTS:

- A. Registered Nurse (RN) with experience in an acute care setting
- B. Successful completion of the Ultrasound Guided-Peripheral Intravenous Catheter (UG-PIVC) placement training and demonstrated competency as determined by the lead PICC RN.
 - 1. Registered Nurses approved by the Unit Manager (UM)
 - 2. Ultrasound guided IV insertion competencies are maintained yearly under the supervision of the lead PICC RN.
 - 3. UMs and the Nursing Office maintain a record of RNs who have been trained/certified.

II. INITIAL COMPETENCIES:

- A. Registered nurses are appropriately trained and signed off by PICC Line RN following 5 successful insertions, as competent in performing ultrasound-guided intravenous line placement.

III. INDICATIONS:

- A. Criteria for Ultrasound Guided IV Placement
 - 1. Tools used to identify patients at high risk for difficult peripheral intravenous access. Implementation is recommended to optimize peripheral intravenous access procedures.
 - 2. After two unsuccessful attempts to start peripheral IV, ultrasound guided peripheral IV insertion may be considered/initiated. Documentation regarding unsuccessful attempts includes number of attempts, sites used and inserters name.

IV. CONSIDERATIONS:

- A. Use caution when patients have a history of:
 - 1. Bleeding disorder/severe thrombocytopenia
 - 2. Decreased venous blood flow to the extremities
 - 3. Presence of extremity thrombosis
 - 4. Hemodialysis fistula
 - 5. Mastectomy or Lymph node dissection

