



**ARROWHEAD REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER**  
**Department of Nursing Policies and Procedures**

**Policy No. 580.30 Issue 2**  
**Page 1 of 3**

---

**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 intravenous (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.
  - 1. Registered Nurses approved by the Unit Manager (UM)
  - 2. Ultrasound guided IV insertion competencies are maintained yearly.
  - 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 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

**REFERENCES:**                    **Nursing Policy 580.00 Intravenous (IV) Therapy: General Policies**

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (2011). Guidelines for the prevention of intravascular catheter-related infections. *MMWR*, 51 (RR-10), 2-29.

Morata, L., & Bowers, M. (2020). Ultrasound-guided peripheral intravenous catheter insertion: The nurse's manual. *Critical Care Nurse*, 40(5), 38-46. doi:10.4037/ccn2020240

**DEFINITIONS:**                    Placement of a peripherally inserted intravenous catheter under ultrasound-guidance, for the purpose of administering medications that are compatible with peripheral IV lines per hospital guidelines.

**ATTACHMENTS:**                    N/A

**APPROVAL DATE:**

<u>N/A</u>	<u>Policy, Procedure and Standards Committee</u>
<u></u>	<u>Nursing Standards Committee</u> Applicable Administrator, Hospital or Medical Committee
<u></u>	<u>Patient Safety Quality Committee</u> Applicable Administrator, Hospital or Medical Committee
<u></u>	<u>Board of Supervisors</u> Approved by the Governing Body

**REPLACES:**                    Department of Nursing Policy 580.30 Issue 1

**EFFECTIVE:**                    1/7/2022

**REVISED:**                    1/3/2022

**REVIEWED:**                    N/A