



Standard Operating Procedures



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Name of Policy:	Placement of a Sampling Line – Introcath/Venocath	Departments:	ER, ICU, Surgery
Category & No.:	PAT 20.1	Effective by:	May 9, 2024
Version No.:	1.0	Revision History:	Original

Procedure:

Items Required

- Clean exam gloves
- Sterile gloves
- 16g, 18g, or 20g IV peripheral catheter (depending on size of the intracath that will be used)
- Chlorhexidine scrub
- Clean or sterile gauze squares
- 3-4 heparinized saline flushes, including a pre-flushed t-set
- Medical tape
- Light bandage material
- 19g or 22g intracath
- At least one assistant

1. Perform hand hygiene and don clean exam gloves.
2. Clip over the vein being used (usually lateral or medial saphenous) as well as around the limb.
3. Clean and prep over the insertion site with chlorhexidine scrub and alcohol.
4. Choose the appropriately sized peripheral catheter for the size of patient and vein.
5. Perform hand hygiene and don sterile gloves.
6. Place the peripheral IV catheter as aseptically as possible.
7. Once the peripheral IV catheter is placed, you can secure it with one piece of tape to prevent it from dislodging during the next steps. (It is a good idea to place a couple pieces of clean or sterile gauze under IV catheter as it will be bleeding back during the next steps).
8. Take the appropriately sized intracath (a 22g intracath will fit through a 20g peripheral IV catheter, and a 20g will go through an 18g peripheral IV), remove the needle from the end, and keep the clear plastic sleeve that surrounds the intracath in place to prevent contamination.
9. Feed the intracath steadily through the peripheral IV; if you are having trouble feeding it, you may need to have an assistant adjust the position of the patient's leg.
10. Once it is fully fed, seat the end firmly into the base of the peripheral catheter, and then carefully remove the stylet from the intracath and attach a pre-flushed t-set.
11. Secure the catheter and t-set with medical tape and cover with light bandage material. It is recommended to have a saline flush attached to the t-set, and with each piece of tape that is applied, and each layer of bandage, gently flush and draw back to make sure the line has not become occluded.

12. Clamp the IV and remove flush. Place the cap on end of your t-set if it is not a luer-lock set. Clearly label on an outer piece of tape that it is a sampling line, date it, and add your initials.

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References: **Extrapolated from Chapter 4 of Advanced Monitoring and Procedures for Small Animal Emergency and Critical Care by Burkitt-Creedon & Davis*