



Standard Operating Procedures



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Name of Policy:	Mini Venous Cutdown Protocol	Departments:	ER, ICU, Surgery
Category & No.:	ECC 10.1	Effective by:	May 3, 2024
Version No.:	1.0	Revision History:	Original 10/2022

Supplies needed:

- Clippers
- Surgical scrub
- 20g or 18g hypodermic needle
- Peripheral catheter
- Saline flush
- T-port
- Catheter cap
- 2-inch medical tape
- Bandage material

Procedure:

1. Select the best placement site, taking into consideration patient comfort, ease of accessibility, and anticipated catheter dwell time. If chemical restraint is necessary, allow adequate time for optimum results.
2. Collect the necessary supplies.
3. Closely clip a generous area (2-2.5 inches/approximately 5cm) around the intended insertion site and remove any loose fur.
4. Aseptically prepare the area. Alternate cleansing scrub with isopropyl alcohol; prepare in circular motions, starting from the center and finishing at the periphery with each swab.
5. Perform hand hygiene and don examination gloves; if the patient is immunocompromised, it is recommended to wear sterile gloves.
6. Restrain the patient; avoid excessive stress to patient. The restrainer should occlude the vessel manually and proximally to ensure maximum visualization.
7. Palpate or visualize the targeted vessel.
8. Use the edge of bevel of 20- or 18-gauge hypodermic needle as a "scalpel" to cut the skin in a distal-to-proximal direction adjacent and directly parallel to the targeted vessel.
9. Dissect around vessel further as needed, using needle as a mini scalpel with bevel directed parallel to vein.
10. Visualize the vein and insert catheter.
11. Secure catheter as usual and place sterile dressing.

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