

IV ACCESS PROCEDURE

Indications

- To describe a method for establishment of intravenous access in the pre-hospital setting

Equipment

- IV catheter
- Equipment to secure line
- Tourniquet
- Syringe
- Saline lock or IV fluid/tubing, if indicated

Procedure Preparation

- Select insertion site and IV catheter size as appropriate to the patient's condition
 - Use smallest catheter and most distal site indicated
- Apply tourniquet above insertion site
- Don clean gloves
- Clean insertion site using a back and forth motion for 30 seconds with chlorhexidine, allow to air dry for 2 minutes

Procedure

- Insert IV catheter; assure latency
- Attach appropriate solution, begin flow, adjust rate or attach a saline lock if appropriate
 - If saline lock was started, irrigate with 5ml NS
- Apply occlusive sterile dressing over the insertion site
 - Do not put tape over the occlusive dressing
 - Secure with anchoring tape

- Saline locks may be used in lieu of intravenous lines when:
 - Treatment protocol specifies IV NS TKO
 - Fluid resuscitation or bolus is not anticipated