

Seldinger Technique for Venous Cannulation Skill Sheet	Possible Points	Points Awarded
Checks selected IV fluid for proper fluid, clarity and expiration date.	3	
Sets up equipment and prepares infusion set.	3	
Uses body substance isolation precautions.	2	
Identifies proper anatomical site for venipuncture.	4	
Prepares site with antiseptic solution.	3	
Performs venipuncture: -Attaches syringe to catheter or introducing needle. (1 point) -Inserts catheter or introducing needle into vessel (1 point) -Notes or verbalizes flashback in syringe. (1 point) -Occludes vein proximal to catheter. (1 point) -If using over-the-needle catheter, removes stylet (1 point) -If cannulating a central vein, covers the cannula orifice at all times to prevent air embolism. (1 point) -Inserts flexible end of the guide wire into catheter or introducing needle and advances guide wire until at least one-fourth its length is within the vessel. (1 point) -Removes catheter or introducer needle without releasing the guide wire. (2 point) -Skin entry site is enlarged with a #11 scalpel. (1 point) -Catheter sheath and dilator are threaded over the guide wire and advanced to the skin while stabilizing the guide wire at the point of skin entry. (1 point) -Ensures that the guide wire protrudes from the back end of the introducer before advancement into the vessel. (2 point) -Grasps the unit at the junction of the sheath and dilator and inserts the unit into the skin with a twisting motion while stabilizing the guide wire at the back end of the introducer. (2 point) -Threads dilator 2-3 cm into the vein. (1 point) -Advances sheath over dilator until its full length is within the vessel. (1 point) -Removes the dilator and guide wire. (1 point)	18	
Connects IV tubing to catheter.	3	
Ensures patency of infusion.	5	
Secures catheter.	3	
Adjusts flow rate.	2	
Properly disposes of stylet, guide wire, and dilator.	1	
Places antibiotic ointment over venipuncture site.	1	
Dresses venipuncture site with sterile dressing.	1	
Securely tapes catheter and IV tubing in place.	1	
TOTAL SCORE	50	

Critical Criteria

- _____ Failure to establish a patent infusion within 6 minutes.
- _____ Failure to take body substance isolation precautions prior to venipuncture.
- _____ Contaminates equipment or site without appropriately correcting the situation.
- _____ Any improper technique resulting in the potential for air embolism or catheter shear.
- _____ Any improper technique resulting in the potential for losing the guide wire into the vessel.
- _____ Inserts catheter against flow of blood.
- _____ Failure to successfully establish an IV within 3 attempts during the 6 minute time limit.
- _____ Failure to assure correct catheter placement before attaching administration set.

_____ Failure to dispose of sharps in proper container.