
Central Venous Catheter Removal PA Catheter Introducer Removal

Purpose:

1. To ensure proper removal of a central venous catheter or PA catheter introducer when ordered by a physician.

Policy:

1. The RN shall have one-year ICU experience before removing pulmonary artery catheters. Refer to Pulmonary Artery Catheter Removal Policy.
2. Physicians must discontinue all catheter/central lines of patients with documented coagulopathy.
 - a. Plt < 10,000
 - b. INR > 2.0
3. Physician will be notified for any resistance met in discontinuation of the catheter (if resistance felt, **STOP**), for development of hematoma, or continued bleeding.
- 4.
5. Any invasive site with suspected or presumed infection must be removed.
 - a. Please refer to Infection Control Policy 16.0 for appropriate re – insertion when infection is suspected or evident
 - b. When catheter tip is to be cultured upon removal of the catheter, prep the site with chloraprep, chlorhexidine or providone-iodine. Refer to IC 22.0 for specific skin preparation instructions.
6. Pressure must be held for at least 5 minutes or until bleeding has stopped.
7. Patients should be lying flat if catheter located above the diaphragm.

Responsible Party

MD

MD/RN

Action

1. Write an order to discontinue catheter
2. Asses the site of the catheter and checks the PT/PTT and platelet count prior to removal.
3. Place patient in the supine position.
4. Explain procedure to the patient and or family
5. Discontinues suture on central venous catheter.
6. Holding sterile gauze over the site have the patient hold breath and perform valsva (if can cooperate) or remove on exhalation (if unable to

- cooperate). This is to be done if catheter is above the diaphragm.
7. With one steady motion pull central venous catheter out of the body.
 8. Hold pressure for at least 5 minutes or until bleeding stops.
 9. Assure no presence of oozing.
 10. Apply a sterile dressing to site.
 11. Reassess site within 15 minutes to assure no bleeding or swelling
 12. Document procedure.
 13. Notify MD if any complications.

References:

1. Chulay, M. & Burns, S. (2006). AACN: Essentials of Critical Care Nursing.
2. Peter, D., Saxman, C. (2003). Preventing air embolism when removing CVC's: an evidence – based approach to changing practice. Medsurg Nursing 12 (4) 223 – 228.
3. Wiegand, D & Carlson, K. (2005). AACN: Procedure Manual for Critical Care.
4. Infection Control Guidelines IC 16