

Unit 96: Withdrawal of Blood from an Indwelling Peripheral Cannula

Level:	4
Unit type:	Optional (Cardiac Physiology)
Credit value:	2
Guided learning hours:	15

Unit summary

In this unit, you will gain the knowledge, understanding and skills needed to assist and support the healthcare science practitioner/clinical scientist in performing quality-assured, safe, autonomic science investigations. Specifically, this unit ensures that you will be able to withdraw blood from an indwelling cannula. This skill will be typically utilised during investigations such as the measurement of plasma catecholamines supine and tilted.

You will be expected to build your patient-centred professional practice to enable you to safely undertake this skill in the workplace.

Unit assessment requirements

There are no specific assessment requirements for this unit. Please refer to the assessment strategy in *Annexe B*.

Additional information

All procedures must be undertaken in accordance with the Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) in own area of practice.

The lead investigator will gain informed consent for the withdrawal of blood from an indwelling cannula.

AC1.3 includes:

- individuals who lack mental capacity
- the legal action that can be taken if you fail to obtain consent.

AC1.5 includes:

- policy of own organisation for sharps and other occupational exposure to blood and bodily fluids
- actions that must be taken following an occupational exposure
- the importance of risk assessment for possible exposure to blood and body fluids
- the importance of wearing personal protective equipment (PPE)

- strategies for reducing sharps incidents.

AC1.6 includes:

- how cannulae can become infected
- actions that can be taken to reduce the risk of infection
- hand hygiene
- aseptic technique
- personal protective equipment (PPE)
- the four main principles involved in Aseptic Non-Touch Technique (ANTT®):
 - always wash hands effectively
 - never contaminate key parts
 - touch non-key parts with confidence
 - take appropriate infective precautions

AC2.2 includes:

- wearing eye protection if there is a clear chance of splash or spray.

AC2.3 includes:

- introducing self by name and explaining role
- appropriate use of non-verbal communication
- providing information in a timely manner in appropriate language
- listening to the individual and addressing questions or seeking advice from senior colleagues
- communication during and after the test
- communicating in a way that:
 - respects the dignity, rights, privacy and confidentiality of the individual/carer
 - considers and addresses potential cultural differences (undressing etc.), determines when it may be necessary to invite a family member to be present.

AC2.4 includes:

- labelling of blood and plasma storage tubes (individual's name, test date, assay to be performed and nature of sample, e.g., supine)
- Note: plasma storage tubes can also be labelled during the head-up tilt
- adding preservatives to the blood-collection tubes as per protocol.

AC2.8 includes:

- mixing blood as per protocol.

Learning outcomes and assessment criteria

To pass this unit, learners need to demonstrate that they can meet all the learning outcomes for the unit. The assessment criteria outline the requirements that the learner is expected to meet **in own area of work and in accordance with Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs)** to achieve the learning outcomes and the unit.

Learning outcomes		Assessment criteria		Evidence type	Portfolio reference	Date
1	Understand the principles and practice of obtaining venous samples from an indwelling peripheral cannula	1.1	Explain the purpose of an indwelling peripheral cannula for autonomic science investigations			
		1.2	Explain own scope of practice in the context of obtaining venous samples from an indwelling peripheral cannula			
		1.3	Explain the process of gaining informed consent			
		1.4	Explain own responsibilities for recording the cannulation process			
		1.5	Explain safe working practices when obtaining venous samples from an indwelling peripheral cannula			
		1.6	Explain the importance of infection control when obtaining venous samples from an indwelling peripheral cannula			

Learning outcomes		Assessment criteria		Evidence type	Portfolio reference	Date
2	Be able to withdraw venous blood during autonomic science investigations in accordance with the standard operating procedure	2.1	Evaluate the Standard Operating Procedure for withdrawing venous blood from an indwelling cannula			
		2.2	Risk assess all tasks for possible exposure to blood and body fluids			
		2.3	Communicate effectively with the patient throughout the procedure			
		2.4	Prepare the blood-collecting and plasma-storage tubes			
		2.5	Prepare for the procedure using an aseptic technique			
		2.6	Check the cannula site for swelling or redness and escalate any concerns to senior staff			
		2.7	Perform the flushing procedure for the cannula			
		2.8	Collect supine and tilted blood samples and flush cannula as per protocol			
		2.9	Remove the cannula when and if appropriate			

Learner name: _____

Date: _____

Learner signature: _____

Date: _____

Assessor signature: _____

Date: _____

Internal verifier signature: _____

Date: _____

(if sampled)