

# CHILDREN'S HEALTH PROGRAM

## Policy & Procedure

<b>TITLE:</b> Arterial Line, Blood Sampling and Removal	<b>NUMBER:</b> 1753
Sponsor: Carolyn Doucet, Manager Perioperative and Sterile Processing Services	Page: 1 of 4
Approved by: Carolyn Doucet, Manager Perioperative and Sterile Processing Services	Approval Date: February 16 <sup>th</sup> , 2016  Effective Date: March 14 <sup>th</sup> , 2016
Applies To: Registered Nurses (RN's) in the IWK Health Centre Recovery Room Children's Health Program	

**THIS IS A BEYOND LEVEL COMPETENCY (BELC) FOR REGISTERED NURSES AT THE IWK HEALTH CENTRE AND REQUIRES INITIAL CERTIFICATION AND ONGOING RECERTIFICATION**

### POLICY STATEMENTS

1. A physician's order is required for blood work drawn from an arterial line.
2. A physician's order is required for removal of an arterial line.
3. No medication will be injected or infused through an arterial line
4. Patients will remain in Recovery until the arterial line is removed.
5. This care is a beyond entry level competency (BELC) for RN's and requires initial learning and certification, online tracking and yearly re-certification.

### PROCEDURE

#### Blood Collection from an Arterial Line

#### Equipment

- Chlorhexidine swabs
- 3mL, 5mL and heparinized syringe for blood gases if needed
- Required specimen tubes
- Gloves

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1. Enter blood work in the MEDITECH order entry system and obtain labels.
2. Identify patient using two unique identifiers (Policy #1100).
3. Gather supplies.
4. Perform hand hygiene as per Policy #205.2 and apply gloves.
5. Scrub stopcock port for 30 seconds using health centre approved antiseptic swab. Allow to air dry for 30 seconds.
6. Attach 5 mL syringe and turn stopcock off to pressure set up.
7. Slowly withdraw 3-5 mL of blood for discard. Turn stopcock off to patient. Remove syringe.
8. Attach 3 mL syringe and turn stopcock off to pressure set up and withdraw blood. Turn stopcock off to patient and remove syringe.
9. Place blood in appropriate tubes and label as per Policy #3311.

## Drawing Arterial Blood Gases

### Equipment

- PICO Syringe

1. Pico syringe is filled separately for blood gas and chemistry.
2. Expel air from syringe.
3. Attach syringe to port of stopcock.
4. Turn stopcock off to pressure set up and withdraw 2 mL of blood.
5. Turn stopcock off to patient and remove syringe.
6. Remove all air bubbles from the syringe and advance plunger so that no air remains.
7. Attach the plastic tip that comes with the syringe.
8. Label syringe. Place on ice and transport immediately to the lab.
9. Document the blood collection on the patient's permanent health record.

## Removal of Arterial Catheter

### Equipment

- Chlorhexidine swabs
- sterile scissors
- 4X4 gauze
- non-sterile gloves
- Band-Aid.

1. Gather equipment. Perform hand hygiene and apply gloves.
2. Remove dressing.
3. Cleanse the site
4. Remove sutures if applicable.
5. Place 4X4 gauze over the insertion site.

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6. Remove the catheter slowly and apply pressure to the site for a minimum of 5 minutes.
7. Assess the catheter tip to ensure it is intact.
8. Apply Band-Aid
9. Document on the patient's health record.
10. Continue to observe the site for bleeding, swelling, pain, change in temperature and sensation.

## **REFERENCES**

Slota, Margaret C. (2006). Core Curriculum for Pediatric Critical Care Nursing, second edition. Saunders Elksevier: Philadelphia, PA

## **RELATED DOCUMENTS**

### **Policies:**

IWK -1100 Patient Identification

IWK - 205.2 Hand Hygiene

IWK- 201.0 Application of Routine Practices

IWK- 3311 Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine-Identification and Handling of Diagnostic Laboratory Specimens

IWK- 324.2 Approval and Performance of Beyond Entry Level Competencies (BELC) by Registered Nurses at the IWK Health Centre.

### **Other:**

Self Directed Learning Package-Arterial Catheter Insertion, Care and Management. Women's and Newborn Health 2012

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## District Health Authority/IWK Policies Being Replaced

IWK- 1752- Arterial Line Removal

### Version History

(To Be Completed by the Policy Office)

<b>Major Revisions (e.g. Standard 4 year review)</b>	<b>Minor Revisions (e.g. spelling correction, wording changes, etc.)</b>
<b>February 2016</b>	

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