INTRODUCTION

The evidence-based Vessel Health & Preservation (VHP) consensus developed through a comprehensive, systematic review and analysis of the existing evidence, aiming to optimize the management of vascular access devices (VADs) by vascular nurses and other health care professionals.

First, the classification of VADs is explained. Following this, a framework is introduced, which gives an overview of each stage of vascular assessment and therapy, and is intended to be used either as an indicative aid or framework.

The core of the guidance contains every two years and revisions taken in the light of new evidence.

Please forward feedback to VHP@ips.uk.net

UK VESSEL HEALTH AND PRESERVATION

FIRST CONSIDERATION

IS IV THERAPY REQUIRED?

HAVE ALTERNATIVE ROUTES BEEN CONSIDERED AND EXCLUDED?

NO

YES

RIGHT LINE DECISION TOOL

GENUINE NEED FOR IV THERAPY?

YES

NO

PERIPHERAL VEIN ASSESSMENT

PERIPHERAL VEIN QUALITY

YES

NO

VEIN QUALITY

VEIN QUALITY

YES

NO

VEIN QUALITY

VEIN QUALITY

YES

NO

CONSIDER CENTRAL

CONSIDER CENTRAL

YES

NO

GRADE

QUALITY

DEFINITION OF QUALITY

REJECTION MANAGEMENT1

1

No palpable veins suitable to cannulate (visual, palpable, transillumination, ultrasound, IR, CT)

Cannula may be inserted by trained/authorised health care practitioner

2

2 palpable veins suitable to cannulate (visual, palpable, transillumination, ultrasound, IR, CT)

Cannula may be inserted by trained/authorised health care practitioner

3

If peripheral vein grade not compatible with intended treatment duration, consider other type of vascular device

4

If peripheral vein grade not compatible with intended treatment duration, consider other type of vascular device

5

If peripheral vein grade not compatible with intended treatment duration, consider other type of vascular device

VEIN QUALITY

VEIN QUALITY

YES

NO

VEIN QUALITY

VEIN QUALITY

YES

NO

CONSIDER CENTRAL

CONSIDER CENTRAL

YES

NO

REFERENCE

REFERENCES

UK VESSEL HEALTH AND PRESERVATION

CONSIDER CENTRAL

CONSIDER CENTRAL

YES

NO

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