

EUSC33 Maintain access to the invasive site during an intervention

OVERVIEW

This standard covers the actions involved in maintaining access to the invasive site. It includes responding appropriately to any complications or unacceptable clinical parameters and avoiding causing damage to the site or injury to the individual. Equipment, tools and materials must be selected and used as appropriate to the intervention being performed and the invasive site being maintained. It is important to work effectively with other members of the team who are delivering the intervention. Users of this standard will need to ensure that practice reflects up to date information and policies. Version No 1

KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING

You will need to know and understand:

- 1.The current European and national legislation, national guidelines and local policies and protocols which affect your work practice
- 2.Your responsibilities under the current European and national legislation, national guidelines and local policies and protocols on your actions within the EUSC environment
- 3.The policies and guidance which clarify your scope of practice and the relationship between yourself and other members of staff in terms of delegation and supervision
- 4.The principles of asepsis in relation to the provision of surgical instrumentation and supplementary items and the maintenance of the sterile field and the potential consequence of poor practice
- 5.The importance of following standard precautions relevant to the activity to be undertaken and the protective clothing which may be worn for the individual's and your protection
- 6.The potential consequences of poor practice in relation to the application of standard precautions
- 7.Your role and the importance of working within your own sphere of competence
- 8.The roles and responsibilities of other team members
- 9.The range and appropriateness of the methods, procedures and techniques, suitable for maintaining site access during invasive interventions
- 10.The processes you would go through in establishing the appropriate course of action for the intervention to be undertaken
- 11.How to practise in such a way as to minimise the risk to individuals of harm or error
- 12.The risk assessment and scoring systems for an individual undergoing an invasive

intervention

- 13.The types of problems that might arise during the course of the intervention and the responses that should be made to deal with them
- 14.The principles of local, general and regional anaesthesia
- 15.Applied surgical anatomy, general and system specific physiology and pathology and its application to the particular type invasive intervention being undertaken, in line with current guidance in your field of practice
- 16.The basic complications of maintaining access to invasive sites during interventions and actions to be taken
- 17.The materials, tools and equipment necessary to maintain access to an invasive site during an intervention, how to use them and the implications of incorrect usage

PERFORMANCE CRITERIA

You must be able to do the following:

- 1.apply standard precautions for infection control and other relevant health and safety measures, and wear personal protective clothing and additional protective equipment as appropriate
- 2.ensure that the appropriate equipment, tools and materials are available and appropriately prepared for the safe undertaking of the intervention, notifying the appropriate person of any resource shortfall that might jeopardise safe and effective intervention
- 3.work under the direction of the individual leading the intervention, responding promptly and accurately as the intervention progresses
- 4.ensure that the individual has been prepared and draped appropriately for you to be able to maintain access to the site in a manner that respects their privacy and dignity
- 5.ensure that you are positioned in a manner that enables effective continued access to the site without compromising:
 - 1.the ability of others within the team to perform the intervention
 - 2.the sterility of the intervention site or the wider intervention environment
- 6.use the appropriate method for maintaining access to the site, avoiding injury to the individual and:
 - 1.taking account of the intervention procedure and the stage of the intervention
 - 2.taking account of the physical characteristics of the individual
 - 3.taking account of the type of tissue affected and its fragility
 - 4.taking account of the location of the exposed intervention site
 - 5.in a way that will minimise any post intervention discomfort, pain and trauma to the individual
- 7.ensure that appropriate debridement and aspiration is undertaken to maximise visibility around the intervention site
- 8.ensure that the viability of organs and tissues exposed as a result of the intervention is maintained, in line with good medical practice
- 9.ensure that levels of bleeding are within acceptable parameters and respond promptly and effectively to any anomalies, notifying others where appropriate and/or necessary
- 10.maintain access to the intervention site to the point where the intervention has been completed and the intervention site can be safely prepared for closure

- 11.maintain timely, accurate, complete and legible records in accordance with local policies and procedures and work at all times within appropriate patient and information confidentiality guidelines and protocols
- 12.work within your scope of responsibility and accountability, referring to others where appropriate and/or necessary

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

This National Occupational Standard was developed by Skills for Health. This standard links with the following dimension within the NHS Knowledge and Skills Framework (October 2004): Dimension: HWB7 Interventions and treatments