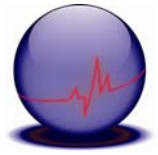




FAST RESPONSE SCHOOL OF HEALTHCARE EDUCATION

EMERGENCY MEDICAL TECHNICIAN

EMT BASICS: LEARNING SHEET



BLOOD PRESSURE ASSESSMENT

- OBJECTIVE:** Student will demonstrate the ability to correctly obtain an accurate blood pressure by both the palpated and auscultated methods.
- EQUIPMENT:**
1. Blood Pressure Cuff (Various Sizes)
 2. Stethoscope
 3. Patient

Palpated Technique:

1. Takes body substance isolation precautions.
2. Explains the procedure to the patient.
3. Places the appropriately sized blood pressure cuff around the patient's arm. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• End of cuff must fall within the range listed on the Blood pressure cuff.• <i>Improperly sized BP cuff can give an inaccurate reading.</i>
4. Locates the radial artery.
5. Palpates the artery.
6. Inflates the cuff to approximately 30 mmHg above where pulse was last felt.
7. Deflates the cuff slowly.
8. Continues to palpate radial artery and records measurement when pulse is felt again.
9. Reports the obtained measurement (accuracy must be within +/- 4 mmHg).
10. Records finding as #/P (i.e. 120/P).

Auscultated Technique:

1. Takes body substance isolation precautions.
2. Explains the procedure to the patient.
3. Places the appropriately sized blood pressure cuff around the patient's arm. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• End of cuff must fall within the range listed on the Blood pressure cuff.• <i>Improperly sized BP cuff can give an inaccurate reading.</i>
4. Locates the brachial artery by palpation.
5. Places the diaphragm of the stethoscope over the brachial artery.
6. Inflates the cuff to approximately 30 mmHg above where pulse was last heard.
7. Deflates the cuff slowly.
8. Continues to auscultate brachial artery and records measurement. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Systolic – When pulse returns during deflation.• Diastolic – When the pulse is no longer heard during deflation.
9. Reports the obtained measurement (accuracy must be within +/- 4 mmHg).

CRITICAL CRITERIA

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Did not take or verbalize BSI• Did not apply appropriate sized cuff• Did not find and palpate the brachial artery• Did not determine BP within +/- 4 mmHg	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Did not find and palpate the radial artery, or palpated pulse using the thumb.• Did not appropriately place the stethoscope diaphragm on the brachial artery.• Failure to Manage Patient as a Competent EMT
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