

Guideline for ACCPs acquiring Initial Competencies in Central Venous Catheter (CVC) Placement

The following guidance will help ACCPs to develop a safe technique:

1. Successfully complete CPD/Mastery on central venous access
2. Under direct supervision by Senior tier trainee / Consultant or 'sign-off' ACCP, complete a *minimum* of 10 DOPS for Right or Left Internal Jugular CVC insertions (at least 2 DOPS from a Consultant). More than 10 placements can be needed in order to feel confident and comfortable with this new skill.
3. When the ACCP is ready, meet with the ACCP Clinical Nurse Manager and an ACCP Clinical Lead to discuss and document progress to date.
4. After a further 10 IJ CVCs, the ACCP can move on to acquiring an advanced CVC skillset:
 - 5 directly supervised CVVHD catheters
 - 5 directly supervised 'double wired' catheterisations
 - 5 directly supervised Femoral catheterisations
 - A range of DOPS/CBDs to evidence achievement
5. Meet again with CNM and a Clinical Lead to complete sign off as an experienced operator.

While acquiring initial competencies, no CVC attempts should be made in higher-risk patients, i.e. those with significant coagulopathy, raised ICP, or marked physiological instability. Even after this period the ACCP should risk assess each line insertion and discuss with senior medical colleagues if difficulty is anticipated.

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