

## IABP Safety Checklist

To be used on admission/as part of shift checks following patient transfer.

### Equipment Checks

#### Mains Power On

16hrs to fully charge battery (80% charged within first 2 hrs)  
Should be plugged into UPS

#### Helium Tank Open

Turn the helium tap anti-clockwise to open

#### Helium Tank Level

Check helium pressure gauge is above red line, if not contact perfusionist

- Within office hours – Ext. 23252
- Out of office hours – Ext. 21111 (via CTITU) or via *Switchboard*

#### IABP Tubing Connections

Ensure connections are secure between patient and the pump (both helium & a-line)  
If helium line becomes disconnected refer to – ***IABP Troubleshooting Guide/Help Screen***

#### IABP Tubing Patency

If blood/dried blood particles/more likely grey specs are seen in the pneumatic tubing this may indicate balloon rupture

First – stop pump > clamp helium line (stopping the pump automatically deflates the balloon) > disconnect balloon/tubing from pump > Notify medical staff immediately and refer to:

- ***IABP Troubleshooting Guide/Help Screen***

#### In “Auto” Mode (CS100/CS300 models)

Trigger source automatically derived from ECG but will automatically adjust to “Pressure” trigger if ECG lost.

Should only be in “Semi-Auto” mode if advised by Consultant/Cardiologist

**Never** set to “Manual”

#### IABP Frequency

As prescribed by Consultant/cardiologist – 1:1, 1:2, 1:3

#### Augmentation

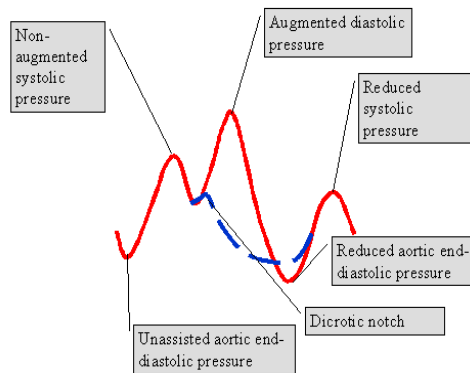
Usually fully augmented unless reduced by Consultant/Cardiologist for weaning

**Never** set less than ¾ Augmentation – Risk of clot formation

Alarm limits – as prescribed

<b>Title:</b> IABP Safety Checklist	
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<b>Category:</b> 1	<b>Document Version;</b> 1
<b>Status Draft/Final:</b> Final	<b>Review Date:</b> November 2014
<b>Authoriser;</b> Lothian Critical Care Editorial Board	<b>Date Authorisation:</b> 10.11.10
<b>Date added to intranet</b>	09.07.12
<b>Key Words;</b> Critical Care IABP Safety	
<b>Comments;</b>	

Directorate of Critical Care  
**Observe Arterial Trace**



Red line represent actual aortic pressure tracing with an initial **Unassisted Systolic Pressure** (or non-augmented systolic pressure) followed by a pump generated **Augmented Diastolic Pressure** and then an **Assisted Systolic Pressure** (or reduced systolic pressure)  
 A sharp “V” should be visible between unassisted systole and augmented diastole.

- If not refer to **IABP Troubleshoot Guide**

**Accurate Arterial Readings**

Check pressure bag height – 3ft above transducer, add separate drip stand to bed to achieve this  
 Maintain pressure – 300mmHg with NaCl 0.9%

- Initial flush bag may contain heparin if IABP inserted elsewhere – e.g. Angiography

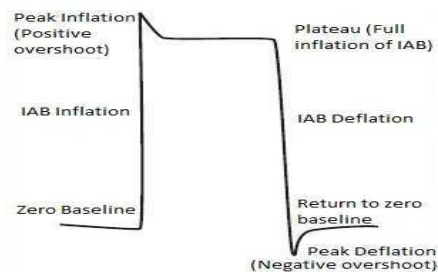
Zero at start of shift – to phlebostatic axis

Ensure arterial line tubing length less than 8ft – do not add extratubing as this may affect readings

If dampened trace and blockage of lumen suspected refer to **IABP Troubleshooting Guide**

**Do not** sample from IABP arterial line

**Normal Balloon Pressure Waveform**



If waveform looks different to this please refer to **IABP Troubleshooting Guide**

**Documentation**

**24hr Chart – Hourly Checks**

Graph section of TPR Chart – IABP Systolic, Diastolic, Mean

Haemodynamic (boxed) section of TPR chart

- ABP/MAP, Diastolic Augmentation
- Frequency – 1:1, 1:2, 1:3
- Bilateral Pedal Pulses & Left radial pulse – colour, temperature, sensation
- Catheter site/helium tubing check

### Nursing Notes

- As above – plus goals for diastolic augmentation and MAP.
- Other haemodynamic supports required (e.g. Inotropes)
- Site checks & dressing changes
- Rationale for medically altered trigger source (if not ECG)
- Weaning plan, record of ECHO, most recent Chest x-ray
  - Especially on admission/after CPR/if obs change following any change in patient position

### Platelet Count

Observe for thrombocytopenia/signs of bleeding – especially if on IV heparin

## Patient Checks

### Insertion Site

- Check whether sheath/sheathless insertion
  - If sheath in situ patient may be restricted to angle at which they can sit up
- Check anteriorly and posteriorly for signs of blood, haematoma
  - If present refer to **IABP Troubleshooting Guide**
- Ensure dressing is clean and intact – refer to **SPSP Guidance**
- Check for signs of infection, inform medical staff if suspected
- Maintain alignment of affected limb

**Medical staff must be made aware of any of the following complications as radiological confirmation of catheter placement may be required:**

#### Lower Limb Perfusion

- Reduction in bloodflow – using Doppler USS available on IABP
- Distal pedal pulses on both limbs, colour, temperature and capillary filling (if awake include sensation/movement)

**Left Arm Perfusion** – Reduction in blood flow by manually checking left radial pulse – colour, temperature and if awake sensation/movement

**Urine Output** – Decreased UO/anuria

**Shoulder pain** – Possibility of aortic wall dissection – sudden excruciating pain

**GCS** - Decreased

### Additional Points to Note:

**Catheter Immobility** – IAB Catheter **must not be Immobile** for **≥ 30 minutes**. If catheter is immobile for more than 30 minutes the pump **must not** be restarted, the IAB catheter must be removed and patient reviewed as to whether a new catheter is required to be inserted.

**Cardiac Arrest** – During cardiac arrest follow ALS protocol – delivery of DC shock will not adversely affect pump. Use arterial pressure as the trigger during chest compressions (1:1). Revert to ECG R wave signal as clinically indicated.