

Standards Procedure (Skill) Parenteral Access Section

Parenteral Access: Arterial Line Maintenance

Clinical Indications:

P PARAMEDIC P

- Transport of a patient with an existing arterial line.

Procedure:

1. Make certain arterial line is secured prior to transport, including intersection of arterial catheter and IV/Monitoring lines.
2. Use available equipment for monitoring of arterial pressures via arterial line.
3. Do not use the arterial line for administration of any fluids or medications.
4. If there is any question regarding dislodgement of the arterial line and bleeding results, remove the line and apply direct pressure over the site for at least five minutes before checking to ensure hemostasis.

Certification Requirements:

- Maintain knowledge of the indications, contraindications, technique, and possible complications of the procedure. Assessment of this knowledge may be accomplished via quality assurance mechanisms, classroom demonstrations, skills stations, or other mechanisms as deemed appropriate by the local EMS System.