

Management pathway for insertion of Peripheral Intravenous Cannula (PIVC) incorporating Difficult Intravenous Access (DIVA) (for peripherally compatible infusates)

Is the patient prescribed peripherally compatible IV therapy?

Yes

Does the patient have:
 1. non-visible veins
 2. non-palpable veins
 3. history of difficult access, use of ultrasound or patient verbalises previous difficulty?

Yes

Do they have two or three risk factors?

Unsure

No

Yes

Are you 80% confident about successful insertion on first attempt?

No

Refer to experienced vascular access specialist clinician/team

Yes

Proceed with cannulation

Patient has difficult venous access (DIVA)

If assessment findings are unclear, complete a comprehensive assessment considering the following additional risk factors:

Patient

- preference, body mass index, diagnosis, age, sex, vein characteristics

Therapy

- prior chemotherapy, previous previous vascular access device (VAD) related complications

Clinician

- experience, skill, confidence

Workplace

- training, education, competency
- available equipment and technology

Advanced management implemented from the outset:

Patient preparation

- education, pain / anxiety management, hydration, warmth

Competent vascular access clinician / team

- insertion in forearm, avoiding areas of flexion
- limit number of attempts per person

Assistive imaging technology

- use from outset e.g. ultrasound, near infrared
- by educated and competent clinician

Cannula

- appropriate length and size*

*at least 2/3 cannula in the vein

*cannula occupies less than 1/3 vein diameter

Limit number of attempts per clinician (maximum 2 total)

After 1 failed attempt, if not 80% confident about 2nd attempt, do not proceed and refer to more experienced vascular access clinician

After 1 failed attempt and 80% confident, proceed with 2nd attempt

Successful

No

Yes

Refer to **Calculation for peripheral intravenous cannula and length** document



DOCUMENT in patient health record