

How to use the scoring tool:

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This scoring tool is meant to assist the clinician in determining the skill level required to gain successful access in a patient. The higher the score, the more experienced the clinician should be. The patient should be rescored with each new attempt. The score will never get lower than the initial score only higher. The other component is the algorithm. This tool is to create an awareness of the types of vascular access available changing from a short term device to a PICC reduces the number of sticks and increases the success rate for placement when done early in the therapy. Example: A child with a score of 9 could be attempted by the newer clinician, however a child with the score of 9 getting > than 5-7 days should be considered for a PICC line placed by the experienced clinician. Patient needs do change this tool and the goal is to decrease the number of attempts and prompt the clinician to rethink the needs with each attempt at vascular access in order to provide the best outcome.

It allows the clinician to recognize their limitations in a graceful way, which benefits of the patient.

Assessment Tool for Grading IV Access:

I. Available access sites:

0-2 sites =3 points; 2-3 sites = 2 points; > 3 sites =1 points

Score #1:_____

Score #2:_____

2. Patient age:

Score #1: _____

0-2 years = 4 points; 3-5 years = 3 points; >6 years = 2 points

Score #1: _____

Score #2: _____

3. Anticipated Duration of IV Access Required:

Score #1: _____

>7 days = 3 points; 3-7 days = 2 points; < 3 days = 1 point

Score #1: _____

Score #2: _____

4. Patient cooperation:

Uncooperative/Difficult to restrain = 3 points

Uncooperative/Easily to restrain = 2 points

Cooperative / Minimal restraint = 1 point

Score #1 _____

Score #2: _____

5. Parent Cooperation:

Extreme anxiety (e.g. 1 attempt only) = 5 points

Expressing concern = 3 points

Able to effectively assist or willing to leave if preferred = 1 point

No parent present = 1 point

Score #1: _____

Score #2: _____

6. Patient History from parent or old chart:

Known to be difficult access/ dehydrated, history of N/V/D,
prematurity or chronically ill, developmentally delayed = 3 points

No anticipated problems/history = 1 point

Score #1: _____

Score #2: _____

TOTAL SCORE #1: _____/

DATE: _____

TOTAL SCORE # 2: _____/

DATE: _____

Assessment:

Grade I (score of 5-9):

Patient may have IV inserted (short term device) by a competent nurse or physician who have met all educational requirements.

Grade 2 (score 10-11):

Clinician may attempt once than proceed to Grade 3

Grade 3 (score of >12): Patient with a score of > 11 requires IV nurse, an experienced staff nurse or physician, in consultation with the attending physician, to determine the number of attempts and alternative measures.

Total number of attempts should be less <6

Total number of clinicians attempting < 3

This tool is meant for use in a non-emergent situation