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**OPINION: Peripherally Inserted External Jugular Catheters**  
**APPROVED DATE: 9/21/05**  
**REVISED DATE: 9/08**  
**ORIGINATING COMMITTEE: Scope of Practice**

### **ADVISORY OPINION**

### **EXTERNAL JUGULAR CANNULATION FOR PERIPHERAL IV (EJ PIV) AND/OR PERIPHERALLY INSERTED CENTRAL CATHETER (EJ PICC)**

It is within the Scope of Practice for a Registered Nurse (RN) to insert a peripheral IV into the external jugular (EJ PIV) or for a validated Peripherally Inserted Central Catheter (PICC) RN to insert a PICC line into the external jugular vein (EJ PICC) if the following requirements are met:

1. General Requirements
  - A. Written policy and procedures for insertion of an EJ PIV or EJ PICC into the external jugular vein.
  - B. Only RN's who have satisfactorily completed an instructional program and have had supervised clinical practice are allowed to insert the external jugular catheters.
  - C. Documentation of satisfactory completion of the instructional program and supervised clinical practice is on file with the employer.
2. Course of Instruction is to Include:
  - A. Anatomy and physiology related to the head and neck
  - B. Vascular assessment techniques
  - C. Insertion techniques specific to insertion device
  - D. Complications and management techniques to include potential adverse reactions
  - E. Techniques for external jugular peripheral line insertion, removal and maintenance
  - F. Nursing responsibilities

#### **Rationale**

The external jugular vein is considered a peripheral site. Peripheral catheters can be placed into the external jugular vein. The expertise of the nurse trained to insert external jugular lines is consistent with the scope of practice as outlined by the Infusion Nursing Society and the Infusion Nurse Standards of Practice, to ensure safe practice and continuity of care for patients.

#### **References**

Holleran, R (2004). External jugular venous access. Nursing Procedures, 3<sup>rd</sup> Ed. Saunders, St. Louis.

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ACLS, Quick Review Study Guide, 2<sup>nd</sup> Ed. Mosby, St. Louis.

Policies and Procedures for Infusion Nursing, 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition. Infusion Nurses Society. 2006.

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Hankins, J., Lonsway, R., Hedrick, C., Perdue, M. (2001). Infusion Therapy in Clinical Practice, 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition. W.B. Saunders, St. Louis.

(2008) INS Position Paper: The Role of the Registered Nurse in the Insertion of External Jugular Peripherally Inserted Central Catheters (EJ PICC) and External Jugular Peripheral Intravenous Catheters (EJPIV).