

**JOHN HUNTER HOSPITAL INTENSIVE CARE  
PRACTICE AND PROCEDURES MANUAL**

**SUBJECT: PiCCO Arterial Cannula Removal in Adult Patients**

**PROCEDURE SECTION: P  
DATE TO BE REVIEWED: 2011**

**OUTCOMES:-**

- 1. To reduce the risk of infection**
- 2. To remove arterial cannula without complication.**

**S.W.P.**

**SAFE WORK PRACTICES**

**RISKS:**

- **Exposure to blood and body fluids.**
- **Muscular strain from awkward posture**
- **Manual handling risks associated with patient positioning.**

**CONTROLS:**

- **Wear personal protective eyewear, plastic apron and gloves**
- **Position patient's bed at height suitable for staff involved.**
- **Refer to HAHS Manual Handling Policy.**

**EQUIPMENT**

- 1 pair sterile gloves
- 1 basic dressing pack
- Chlorhexidine 0.5% in Alcohol 70% solution
- Small occlusive airstrip dressing
- Suture cutter if required

**PROCEDURE**

1. Explain procedure to patient
2. Prepare equipment
3. Ensure that all roller clamps/stop cocks are turned off and deflate the pressure bag
4. Position limb in a comfortable and appropriate position with a blue sheet underneath
5. Using non-sterile gloves carefully remove dressing
6. Wash hands and don sterile gloves
7. Clean around the site with Chlorhexidine
8. If present cut the suture.

9. Remove the cannula with a smooth motion whilst applying digital pressure just slightly proximal to the insertion site with sterile gauze.
10. Firm pressure must be applied to the site for approximately 5 minutes or until blood ooze has ceased.
11. If necessary clean the site further with Chlorhexidine allow to dry before applying the clean occlusive dressing.
12. Date dressing clearly.
13. Document the procedure in notes and report any signs of infection.
14. Check site for signs of delayed bleeding.

**REFERENCES:**

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2. McLean, A and McCartin, V. (2002) Pulsion PiCCO. Wentworth Area Health Service. Retrieved 11<sup>th</sup> July, 2008 from [http://intensivecare.hsnet.nsw.gov.au/five/doc/pulse\\_contour\\_cardiac\\_output\\_PiCCO\\_HM\\_napean.pdf](http://intensivecare.hsnet.nsw.gov.au/five/doc/pulse_contour_cardiac_output_PiCCO_HM_napean.pdf)
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4. Richards, C. (2003) Pulse Contour Cardiac Output (PiCCO). *Intensive Care Services Nursing Policy and Procedures*, Royal Prince Alfred Hospital. Retrieved 11<sup>th</sup> July, 2008 from [http://intensivecare.hsnet.nsw.gov.au/five/doc/pulse\\_contour\\_cardiac\\_output\\_HM\\_rpa.pdf](http://intensivecare.hsnet.nsw.gov.au/five/doc/pulse_contour_cardiac_output_HM_rpa.pdf)
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**DISTRIBUTION:** Intensive Care Unit

**APPROVAL:** Intensive Care Executive Committee

**RESPONSIBLE FOR MONITORING AND REVIEW:** ICU CNC and CNE

**DATE DEVELOPED:** 2008

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**DATE REVIEWED:**

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