

Intravenous Therapy, Intravenous Bolus Medications Instructions to Skill Examiners

Thank you for serving as a Skill Examiner at today's examination. Please take a few moments to review the instructions for your station.

Skill Examiner Responsibilities

- Act in a professional and unbiased manner toward everyone involved in the exam, including candidates.
- Limit conversation with candidates to instructions and answering exam-related questions.
- Avoid social conversation with candidates or commenting about a candidate's performance.
- Maintain control of your scenario.
 - Familiarize yourself with the details of the scenario.
 - Brief simulated patients and assistants.
 - Make sure all equipment is functional.
- Be sure that all exam materials always remain in a secure place.
- Return all exam materials to the National Registry Representative.
 - Include all notes taken by the candidate.
- Thoroughly document justification for the candidate's score, especially if any Critical Criteria are identified.
- Do not give verbal or physical cues to the candidate of their performance. Remain neutral and objective in your conduct.

Skill Examiner Key Points

- Candidates are expected to choose equipment and medications based on current evidence-based guidelines and the national scope of practice for the level for which the candidate is testing.
- Candidates are expected to perform the skill as would a competent entry-level provider.
- The chronological order in which a candidate performs each step in a skill is only important if clinically relevant.
- Reasonable equipment substitutions are acceptable. Direct any questions regarding equipment substitutions to the National Registry Representative.
- Report all equipment failures immediately to the National Registry Representative, and promptly replace defective equipment.
- If a candidate is unsuccessful in completing the Intravenous Therapy skill, they may move on to the Intravenous Bolus Medication skill. It is then acceptable to initiate the IV for the candidate or have a separate IV line solely for the Intravenous Bolus Medication skill.

Intravenous Therapy

Skill Examiner Key Points

- If flashback does not occur due to an equipment abnormality, but should have occurred based on the candidate's performance, simply tell the candidate that they observe flashback.
- If the candidate does not successfully initiate the IV, they can still move on to the Intravenous Bolus Medications skill station.
- This skill may be paired with Intravenous Bolus Medications and Pediatric Intraosseous Infusion. If they are paired, ensure that the equipment for all skills is available at the station.

Intravenous Bolus Medications

Skill Examiner Key Points

- An array of medications in prefilled syringes should be presented to the candidate to allow the candidate to choose the appropriate medication.
- The prefilled syringes should be filled with water, saline, or IV solution and must be refilled and repackaged before each candidate is permitted to enter the room.
- Interact with the candidate as if you are the patient and be sure to give clear information.
- The actual amount of drug dispelled from the syringe is what verifies the dosage administered, regardless of the verbally stated dosage.
- This skill may be paired with Intravenous Therapy and Pediatric Intraosseous Infusion. If they are paired, ensure that the equipment for all skills is available at the station.

Equipment List

Do not allow candidates into the skill station until the following equipment is available. Ensure that all equipment is working properly throughout the exam.

- Personal protective equipment
- IV infusion arms
- Selection of IV solutions (may be expired)
- Selection of IV Administration sets [must include microdrip tubing (60 gtt/cc)]
- IV extension tubing or 3-way stopcock
- Selection of IV catheters (can use small (20 – 22 gauge)
- IV push medications (selection of prefilled syringes) *
- Tape
- Sterile IV site cover
- Syringes (various sizes)
- Tourniquet
- Alcohol preps or similar substitute
- Approved sharps container

*Must include naloxone, and dextrose 50% plus several others

Read the following instructions to all Advanced EMT candidates:

Instructions to the Advanced EMT Psychomotor Skills Candidate for the Intravenous Therapy Skill Station

Welcome to the Intravenous Therapy skill station. In this skill station you are required to establish an IV just as you would in the field. You will have three attempts within a six-minute time limit to establish the IV. Although we are using the manikin arm, you should conduct yourself as if this were a real patient. You should assume that I am the actual patient and may ask me any questions you would normally ask a patient in this situation. Do you have any questions?

Read the following instructions to all Advanced EMT candidates:

Instructions to the Advanced EMT Psychomotor Skills Candidate for the Intravenous Bolus Medication Skill Station

Welcome to the Intravenous Bolus Medication skill station. You will be given a patient scenario and will be required to administer an IV Bolus of medication just as you would in the field. Although we are using the manikin arm, you should conduct yourself as if this were a real patient. You should assume that I am the actual patient and may ask me any questions you would normally ask a patient in this situation. You will have three minutes to begin administration of the medication bolus. Do you have any questions?

The patient you are treating is... [Alternate scenarios below between each candidate:]

-unresponsive and breathing at a rate of 6 with shallow respirations. His pupils are 2 mm and do not respond to light.

-confused and is being transported from an extended care facility for evaluation. Medical direction has ordered you to administer 12.5 grams of dextrose 50% IV.