

De Anza College
Department of Nursing
I.V. Therapy Guidelines

The following are regulations regarding I.V. therapy for students who have completed Pharmacology III.

Students may do the following I.V. Therapy procedures, if approved by the facility, under the direct supervision of instructor or Registered Nurse:*

- Superimpose I.V. fluids
- Change peripheral tubing/dressings
- Add medications to primary I.V. fluids
- Prepare and administer I.V. Piggyback medications via peripheral lines, running central lines, and peripheral saline locks
- Discontinue peripheral I.V. lines
- Flush peripheral saline locks
- Change peripheral I.V. lines to saline locks
- Monitor blood transfusions and TPN infusions (e.g., monitor patient's vital signs, blood glucose, s/s adverse reactions, etc.)
- Insert peripheral I.V. catheters

Students may do the following I.V. Therapy procedures, if approved by the facility, **ONLY** under the direct supervision of instructor or Registered Nurse:

- Discontinue central I.V. lines
- Change central line tubing/dressings
- Flush central lines (heparin or saline)
- Change central I.V. lines to heparin or saline locks
- Prepare and administer I.V. Piggyback medications via central line heparin or saline locks
- Administer scheduled I.V. push medications

Students may not do the following I.V. therapy procedures under any circumstances:

- Initiate and regulate flow on blood products or TPN
- Irrigate I.V. lines
- Administer experimental medications
- Administer chemotherapy
- Perform arterial punctures
- Administer epidural medications or manipulate/discontinue epidural lines

*Students may do these procedures independently only with instructor, staff nurse, or preceptor approval.