

Guideline: Femoral Artery Sheath Removal with Manual Pressure



Guideline Number: Cardiovascular Lab (CVL) 24

Responsible Department: Cardiovascular Lab

Effective date: 9/2025

Scope: University of Toledo Medical Center

Purpose: To provide a defined procedure in removing indwelling femoral artery sheaths and holding manual pressure for hemostasis.

Procedure:

1. Check ACT and proceed if below 180.
2. Position patient on stretcher, with HOB flat.
3. Assess puncture site and affected limb to verify no existing hematoma, or bleeding and to verify pulse location and intensity.
4. Connect patient to monitor, NIBP, and SpO2.
5. Cycle NIBP to every 5 minutes.
6. If SBP is greater than or equal to 160mm/Hg, call MD or follow orders for PRN medications.
7. Don gloves, gown, and eye protection.
8. Feel for pulse three fingers above insertion site.
9. Slowly remove sheath while increasing pressure over puncture site.
10. Apply firm pressure for 15 minutes to where the pedal pulse decreases but does not totally obliterate the pulse.
11. Hold medium pressure for an additional 10 minutes and light pressure for 5 minutes. Add 5 minutes for every French over 6.
12. Monitor groin site for hematoma development and for hemostasis.
13. Dress with non-occlusive dressing and 4x4 to observe site.
14. Check site and VS every 15min times four, every 30 minutes times two, then every hour times four.
15. Patient must remain flat for 1 hour for each French size of the sheath. (i.e., 6 hours for 6 French sheath, 4 hours for a 4 French sheath)

Reviewed by:

/s/

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Date

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Guideline Cardiovascular Lab 1- Administrative Absence