

## **Cannulation Skill Levels Policy**

**Purpose: To assess cannulation skills of staff**

1. Staff will be evaluated for cannulations skill level after orientation is complete and at yearly evaluation.
2. Evaluation of skill level will be determined by unit manager and vascular access nurse, and by satisfactory completion of an “Access Quiz”.
3. 3 Cannulation Skill Levels are available.

**A. Trainee**

1. Staff member under observation of a preceptor.
2. Trainee will cannulate only well-developed, mature AVF.
3. Preceptor will evaluate the assessment, cannulations, and troubleshooting skills of the trainee.
4. Preceptor will educate the trainee on current policy and give assistance as needed.
5. After orientation is completed, the trainee may be evaluated for movement to the skilled level.

**B. Skilled**

1. Staff members who independently, consistently, and successfully assess cannulators, and perform basic troubleshooting of needles for mature AVF.
2. Completes an “Access Quiz” with a final score of 80% correct.

**C. Master**

1. Staff member who constantly exceeds skilled level.
2. Independently, consistently, and successfully assesses cannulators, and performs troubleshooting of needles for AVF that are considered difficult to cannulate.
3. Peers seek out this individual for assessment of AVF of all stages for development, for initial cannulations, and for AVF that are considered to be difficult to cannulate.
4. Completes an “Access Quiz” with a final score of 90% correct.