

**PARKLAND HEALTH & HOSPITAL SYSTEM
LEADERSHIP & ORGANIZATIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

**COMPETENCY VALIDATION
PULMONARY ARTERY PRESSURE MONITORING**

Name: _____ ID#: _____

Unit: _____ Date: _____

Pulmonary Artery Pressure Monitoring	1 st Attempt (P or F)	2 nd Attempt (P or F)	Comments
1. Identify the lumen used to:			
A. Monitor PAP			
B. Monitor RA (CVP)			
C. Inflate the balloon			
D. Inject cooled solution for CO (Manuel bolus only)			
E. Obtain mixed venous blood samples			
F. Thermal Filament			
G. Thermister			
2. Calibrate the Transducer:			
A. Check the tubing and transducer for air bubbles.			
B. Positions the patient flat (if appropriate).			
C. Levels the transducer to the phlebostatic axis (4 th ICS, the point midway between the outermost part of the anterior and posterior surfaces of the chest) using a level.			
D. Zeros the transducer (may verbalize depending on the monitor).			
3. States PAP waveform must be displayed at all times.			
4. When asked, states that calibration is done every 4 hours and when significant variations are noted.			
5. Identifies a dampened PAP waveform.			
6. Troubleshoots a dampened PAP waveform (performs at least 4 of the following):			
A. Ensures that the pressure bag is inflated to 300 mmHg.			
B. Checks the transducer and tubing for air bubbles.			
C. Checks the tubing for a loose connection.			
D. Checks for kinks in the tubing or catheter.			
E. Recalibrates the transducer.			
F. Aspirates back and/or flushes the tubing.			
7. Identifies the inspiratory and expiratory phases of the waveform.			
8. States that the readings are obtained at end-expiratory phase.			
9. Obtains the PAP reading (accounting for respiratory variations). PAS/PAD= _____ (within 2 mmHg)			
10. Inflates the balloon to obtain a pulmonary capillary wedge pressure (PCWP), using no more than 1.5cc of air. Pedi: balloon inflation information on package insert.			
11. Allows balloon to deflate passively by disconnection or release of syringe plunger.			
12. Obtains PCWP Reading (accounting for respiratory variations). PCWP= _____ (within 2 mm Hg)			
13. Compares readings with previous shift and describes appropriate nursing actions.			
14. Identifies the following waveforms and states normal pressures			
A. Right Atrium (RA/CVP) 2-6 mmHg.			

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B. Right Ventricular (RV) 20-30/0-5 mmHg.			
C. Pulmonary Artery (PAP) - 20-30/10-15 mmHg. adult			
D. Pulmonary Capillary Wedge Pressure (PCWP) 6-12mmHg. Adult, 4-8mmHg. Pediatric.			
15. Identifies complications of Pulmonary Artery Monitoring (states at least 4) A. Pulmonary Infarction B. Dysrhythmias C. Pneumothorax, hemothorax, hydrothorax D. Pulmonary artery perforation E. Air emboli F. Pulmonary embolism G. Endocarditis			

The completion of this form validates the above nurse's competency for this skill.

#1 Pass / Fail Competency Validator Signature: _____

#2 Pass / Fail Competency Validator Signature: _____