Internal thoracic artery examination and harvesting

Assessment of competences for a qualified junior SCP

**Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Please note: SCPs can add DOPS and PBAs as evidence.**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | | **NOT competent** | **Competent** | **Signature and date** |
| Inspection and interpretation of internal thoracic artery in the preoperative clinic or ward or in theatre | | | | |
| 1 | Introduction   * Confirm patient name and ID * Introduce yourself to the patient * Explain procedure * Consent * Remove clothing * Position: patient sat upright to begin |  |  |  |
| 2 | Anatomy   * Explain full course of internal thoracic artery * Discuss the anatomical structure of chest wall * Discuss the adjacent vital structures * Discuss the plan for harvesting |  |  |  |
| 3 | Requirement of conduit for bypass surgery   * Read the angiogram notes and discuss the number of conduits needed for the surgery |  |  |  |
| 4 | Comorbidities and generic conditions   * Skin conditions (psoriasis, eczema, dry skin tissues) * Body build   + Thin build   + Moderate build   + Muscular   + Obese * Diabetes   + Well controlled   + Poorly controlled   + Check:     - HbA1c level     - Blood glucose level     - Random glucose level * Peripheral vascular disease   + Feel all central and peripheral pulses to see any flow difference on brachial or radial or subclavian arteries   + In case of absence of pulses, order arterial doppler scan or subclavian angiogram to see the flow in internal thoracic arteries   + Look at the tissue condition * Discuss the patient’s age and sex   + Discuss the elderly patient’s skin tissue healing   + Discuss the difficulties of suturing and selection of sutures for particular type of skin tissues   + Discuss the female sex, especially patient’s quality of the artery and potential plan to avoid any complications   + Discuss the drugs with the patient   + Discuss antiplatelet and antithrombotic drugs with the patient |  |  |  |
| 5 | Communication   * Discuss problems with the multidisciplinary team * Discuss the potential plan with the patient * Send the patient for further investigations if required |  |  |  |
| 6 | Potential issues   * Complications   + Discuss the potential complications of bleeding, sternal infections, sternal dehiscence   + Discuss closure techniques.   + Discuss the potential complications of bleeding into the pleural cavity and the need for insertion of pleural chest drain in patients who have coagulopathy problems   + Discuss phrenic nerve damage and prevention techniques   + Discuss the potential drawbacks and prevention of dissecting innominate vein during sternotomy or while harvesting internal thoracic artery including internal thoracic vein |  |  |  |
| **Assessor’s comments:** | | | | |
|  | | | | |
| **The SCP has completed these outcomes to the appropriate standard.**  **Assessor’s name:**  **Signature and date:** | | **SCP’s signature:**  **Date:** | | |

\*Please note that junior SCPs have to do at least 25 competences to develop their portfolio of evidence.