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 wardor 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
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| 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
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| 3 | Requirement of conduit for bypass surgery* Read the angiogram notes and discuss the number of conduits needed for the surgery
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| 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:** |
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| **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.