

This Exam Outline was developed to help you prepare for the knowledge exam.

This Exam Outline is not meant to cover all aspects of the knowledge exam, but to guide your preparation for questions that may occur in the knowledge exam.

Review:

- Types of vascular access devices; indications, contraindications
 - Peripheral
 - Central
- Who may insert PICCs
- Informed consent
- Size of common catheters and complications associated with each, uses for each gauge
- Blood transfusion reactions, signs and symptoms, monitoring, treatment
- Blood transfusion requirements, tubing requirements
- Stabilizing devices: Restraint or not
- Types of medications, why is the medication considered:
 - Vesicants
 - Irritants
- Safe medication practices
 - Multiple versus single use vials
 - Patient identification
- How many attempts may be used to start peripheral lines
- Nursing process
- Complications from vascular access, signs and symptoms, and treatment
 - Phlebitis
 - Extravasation
 - Infiltration
 - Thrombosis
- Types of fluids and their uses
 - Crystalloid/colloid
 - Hyper/hypo tonic
- Patient education regarding vascular devices
- Site selection criteria
- Tourniquet use
- Stopcock use and contraindications
- Documentation and monitoring requirements
- Techniques for drawing lab specimens from central lines
- Electrolyte imbalances and symptomology
- Site cleansing products and when to use
- Accessing implanted vascular devices
- Adverse and sentinel events