

Procedure Competency Assessment Tool – Nerve Block

Provider: _____

Date: _____

Procedure: ☐ Digital Block ☐ Hematoma Block

☐ Other Peripheral Nerve Block: _____

How many of this procedure have you completed thus far? _____

Please circle the descriptor corresponding to the candidate's performance in each category, **irrespective of the training level.**

Indication/Informed Consent:

Novice		Competent		Expert
Not sure of the patient's history, context of the procedure, or has knowledge gaps in procedure contraindications or potential complications		Understands the general indications, contraindications, potential complications, and clinical value of procedure; able to explain to patient		Clearly articulates the clinical value, potential complications, and alternatives to patient; able to accurately answer all patient questions to obtain informed consent

Knowledge of Specific Procedure:

Novice		Competent		Expert
Deficient knowledge; unable to articulate procedure steps		Able to articulate all important steps of procedure		Demonstrates familiarity with all aspects of procedure

Procedure Setup:

Novice		Competent		Expert
Does not gather required supplies, inappropriate needle or syringe selection, poor patient positioning, poor sterile technique, or does not properly identify landmarks		Gathers key instruments and supplies; selects appropriate size needle/syringe; properly positions patient; identifies landmarks and needle entry site; maintains sterile technique		Anticipates supplies needed for unexpected complications; ergonomic setup of all instruments and supplies

Ultrasound Transducer Use: ☐ Not Applicable

Novice		Competent		Expert
Unsure of orientation and alignment of transducer		Properly orients and scans with the transducer to acquire images needed		Rapidly orients and scans with the transducer to acquire images needed

Recognition of Key Ultrasound Findings: ☐ Not Applicable

Novice		Competent		Expert
Has difficulty identifying or differentiating key structures		Identifies all key structures, including: tendon, muscle, bone, joint space, nerve, vessels, needle tip		Rapidly and accurately identifies all relevant structures

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Needle Positioning:

Novice		Competent		Expert
Corrections needed to properly position and direct needle		Demonstrates proper technique to find anatomic landmarks for needle entry; independently positions and directs needle, repositioning or redirecting as needed		Easily locates the anatomic landmarks to identify needle entry point; positions and directs needle without need for repositioning or redirection

Procedure Flow and Efficiency:

Novice		Competent		Expert
Frequently stops procedure and seems unsure of next move, or many unnecessary moves		Demonstrates some forward planning with reasonable progression of procedure; efficient time/motion but some unnecessary moves		Obviously plans course of procedure with effortless flow from one move to the next; clear economy of movement and maximum efficiency

Patient Comfort:

Novice		Competent		Expert
Unresponsive to patient discomfort; does not seek patient feedback regarding comfort		Seeks patient feedback; recognizes patient discomfort; alters technique as needed to reduce discomfort		Anticipates sources of discomfort and eliminates them to ensure maximal comfort

Management of Complications: [] Not Applicable

Novice		Competent		Expert
Does not recognize or appropriately address developing complication, or does not appropriately halt procedure with failed attempts		Recognizes and appropriately addresses developing complication; halts the procedure appropriately		Immediately recognizes developing complication; manages with precise direction and without hesitation

Overall on this task did the provider demonstrate competency to perform this procedure independently?

Yes _____ No _____

Comments:

Attending Name (Print): _____

Signature/Date: _____