

Care of an Arterial Line

Never

- ✗ Administer any drug into an Arterial Line
- ✗ Allow Air in an arterial Line
- ✗ Ignore a cold limb or absence of pulses on the same side as an Arterial line-Get help
- ✗ Ignore skin necrosis or localised infection at the arterial line site

Always

- ✓ Ask for Help if you are unsure
- ✓ Label Arterial site with the date of insertion
- ✓ Label Transducer set with the date it was changed (Change set every 72 hrs)
- ✓ Ensure a 1 way RED needle free connector is attached at the sampling port
- ✓ NaCl only to be used as transducer fluid.
- ✓ Maintain ANTT
- ✓ Maintain pressure at 300 mmHg. (Green area on the pressure bag)
- ✓ After taking a sample flush using the transducer system. Ensure a normal arterial trace returns after you have taken the sample and no blood is visible in the line.