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## Overview

This standard is concerned with the preparation of individuals for the introduction of contrast media for a diagnostic imaging examination. This includes the insertion of an appropriate catheter or cannula into the individual and its subsequent removal for the introduction of contrast agents for imaging procedures. This standard includes rectal, urethral, intravenous and other methods of contrast administration. Key people are those involved in the individual's care and others involved in provision of services. Users of this standard will need to ensure that practice reflects up to date information and policies.

## Performance criteria

- You must be able to:*
1. apply standard precautions for infection control and take other appropriate health and safety measures
  2. ensure all necessary preparations have been made by the individual and staff before starting the procedure
  3. check and prepare the equipment required for the examination
  4. ensure the environment is conducive to maintaining the privacy and dignity of the individual
  5. check the identification details before commencing the procedure in accordance with local policies and procedures
  6. introduce yourself and other members of staff present during the examination
  7. communicate with the individual / key people to facilitate their understanding of and co-operation with the examination
  8. establish the individual's capacity to understand the procedure with the help of key people if necessary
  9. obtain valid consent for the procedure in accordance with national and local guidelines
  10. respect the individual's privacy, dignity, beliefs and decisions
  11. clearly explain the procedure and possible outcomes
  12. comply with the correct protocols and procedures relating to the insertion of catheters/cannulas
  13. undertake a risk assessment for the individual for contra-indications to the contrast media and procedure and take appropriate action if any risks are identified
  14. assess the individual for contra-indications to any medicines to be used in the examination and for any relevant allergies, and take appropriate action
  15. position the individual and adjust their clothing according to the protocols for the examination to be performed in a manner which allows an optimal outcome to be achieved while:
    - 15.1 recognising the individual's need to retain their dignity and self respect
    - 15.2 ensuring his/her comfort as far as possible
  16. observe the individual's condition and well-being at all times and take appropriate action
  17. prepare the catheter/cannula for the procedure
  18. inform the individual of the insertion of the catheter/cannula and give any required instructions in a manner which encourages co-operation
  19. insert and secure the catheter/cannula as appropriate

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20. explain to the individual when the catheter/cannula will be removed and provide any instructions as appropriate
  21. carefully remove the catheter/cannula and dispose of all used and contaminated equipment and materials according to local protocols
  22. provide the individual with information relating to the procedure and aftercare where necessary
  23. record any relevant information in line with organisational requirements

## Knowledge and understanding

*You need to know and understand:*

1. legal, organisational and policy requirements relevant to your role, the role of others in your organisation and the activities being carried out
2. the relevant national and local standards, guidelines, policies and procedures that are available and how and when they should be accessed
3. the importance of respecting individuals' culture, privacy, dignity, wishes, beliefs and decisions
4. the limitations of your own knowledge and experience and the importance of operating within your scope of practice
5. the roles and responsibilities of other team members
6. the requirement for obtaining valid consent in line with national and local guidelines
7. clinical appropriateness and authorisation of the cannulation/catheter insertion and the action to take when this the request is not appropriate
8. the anatomy and physiology of related structures relevant to the procedure
9. risks associated with the insertion of catheters/cannulas
10. contra-indications for the procedure including:
  - 10.1 catheterisation/cannulation difficulties, and strategies to overcome this
  - 10.2 history of contrast reactions within the individual
  - 10.3 latex allergies
  - 10.4 pregnancy status
11. preparations and equipment appropriate to the catheter/cannula insertion procedure
12. potential adverse effects to catheterisation/cannulation and appropriate actions to take if adverse effects occur
13. the types of catheters/cannulas used for the introduction of contrast media
14. the positioning of individuals relevant to the catheter/cannula insertion and examination
15. manifestations of individuals' physical and emotional status
16. how to adapt communication styles, ask questions, and listen carefully in ways which are appropriate for the needs of the individual
17. methods of communicating difficult and complex information to individuals and key people
18. the importance of providing individuals and key people with opportunities to ask questions and increase their understanding

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19. the information that should be given to individuals before, during and on completion of the examination
  20. management and care of individuals during and following the introduction of contrast media
  21. safety and quality considerations with regards to the medicines chain including medicine administration and storage
  22. how to keep full, accurate and clear records in line with organisational procedures

SFHCI.H

Insert and remove a catheter or cannula for the introduction of contrast agents for imaging procedures



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**External Links**

This standard links with the following dimension within the NHS Knowledge and Skills Framework (October 2004):  
Dimension: HWB7 Interventions and treatments

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Insert and remove a catheter or cannula for the introduction of contrast agents for imaging procedures



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**Developed by** Skills for Health

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**Suite** Clinical Imaging

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