

Clinical Skill: Arterial Blood Gas

Mr James King has presented to the emergency room with Shortness of Breath and Chest Pain

Please perform an ABG on this patient and verbalise what you are doing during each step.

Please communicate with the examiner/ simulated patient but perform the skill on the mannequin (or if equipment is not available, please state in the correct order all of the steps you would do to complete this skill)

This station will last 10 minutes.

Arterial Blood Gas Examiner Marksheet

Step	Mark
1. Student Introduces themselves	
2. Check Patient details (Name, DOB, Hospital No.)	
3. Check Allergies, PMHx	
4. Gains Informed Consent by: Explaining the procedure clearly avoiding the use of jargon. Must explain the specific risks and benefits of doing this procedure.	
5. Apply PPE	
6. Clean Tray + Trolley	
7. Gather ABG Syringe, Chlorhexidine ampoule/ wipe, Sterile gauze, Micropore tape, Sharps bin	
8. Explains Allen's Test: Occlusive pressure to Radial + Ulnar arteries. Ask patient to clench fist + relax hand. Once palm blanched, release Radial artery. Flushing should return within 5-15 seconds	
9. Locate Radial Artery at point of Maximum Pulsation	
10. Using Ampoule, clean skin for 30s in a cross-hatch formation. Ampoule into Sharps Bin	
11. Open Syringe and expose needle, without touching key parts	
12. Locate and stabilise Radial Artery without contaminating puncture site	
13. Insert needle bevel-up at 45°	
14. Allow syringe to fill to 1mm, aspirate gently if required	
15. Remove needle while applying pressure to puncture site with sterile gauze	
16. Apply pressure continuously for 5 minutes, check if bleeding stopped then apply tape	
17. Make needle safe on hard surface, remove from Syringe. Dispose in Sharps Bin	
18. Expel air from Syringe, apply cap. Keep syringe on ice if >15 mins away from ABG Machine	
19. Note patient's Temperature + FiO2 received, along with 3 points of Identification	
20. Send sample for processing	
21. Thank patient and provide Aftercare (Safety-net about Pain/ infection/ Neurovascular abnormalities)	