



# Jackson Hole Fire/EMS Operations Manual

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Title: **Procedure Guidelines:  
External Jugular  
Intravenous Access**

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## EXTERNAL JUGULAR INTRAVENOUS ACCESS (Procedure Guidelines)

### SCOPE OF PRACTICE

All EMT-Intermediates and Paramedics shall operate within their authorized Scope of Practice as limited to those skills and medication approved for use by the Physician Medical Director and Physician Task Force on Pre-Hospital Care as approve and authorized by the Wyoming Board of Medicine

### INDICATIONS:

- Placement of a venous access line when other peripheral sites are limited.

### CONTRAINDICATIONS:

- Infection over the insertion site
- Lack of anatomical landmarks due to neck size, shape or deformities
- Suspected or proven fracture of the cervical spine
- With coagulation disease, other more easily compressible sites should be considered
- Patients unable to tolerate a Trendelenberg position
- Unsuccessful previous attempt with resultant hematoma

### MATERIALS;

- Universal precautions material
- Tape
- Dressings
- IV tubing
- IV fluid
- Provodine or Chlorhexadine swabs
- Alcohol wipes

**PROCEDURE:**

- Use universal precautions and sterile technique
- Attach IV tubing to IV bag and flush tubing
- Place patient in a Trendelenberg position (15 to 30 degrees head down) to cause venous distension and reduce chance of an air emboli
- Turn patients head away from the side chosen for insertion
- Prep area around insertion site
- Using your free hand, "tourniquet" the vein lightly with one finger above the clavicle and apply traction to the skin above the angle of the jaw
- Make puncture with the bevel of the needle upward midway between the angle of the jaw and the midclavicular line, "tourniqueting" the vein lightly with one finger above the clavicle
- When the flash of blood returns, advance the catheter and withdraw the needle
- Obtain venous blood sample
- Attach iv tubing and allow IV to run freely for several seconds
- Secure IV
- Adjust flow rate

**Complications:**

- Local Hematoma
- Laceration of the deeper internal jugular vein
- Infection
- Air Embolism