



### **What is a US Guided Venipuncture?**

Ultrasound guided venipuncture is a procedure where ultrasound is used to locate and visualize the veins under the skin. This helps with accessing the vein either for drawing of blood or insertion of an intravenous cannula.

### **Why do I need this procedure?**

Ultrasound guided venipuncture is usually performed when normal methods of identifying and cannulating the vein is difficult or unsuccessful.

### **What precautions must I take for the procedure?**

Please inform your doctor if you are taking any blood thinning medications or had prior surgery/injury which may be a relative contraindication to IV cannulation. Examples, not limited to the following, include:

- Arteriovenous fistula or graft
- Previous mastectomy or lymph node dissection

### **What are the risks and complications of the procedure?**

Complications are rare and could include:

- Infection/ Thrombophlebitis
- Bleeding/ Hematoma
- Contrast extravasation
- Artery or nerve injury