

Intraosseous needle (IO) observation chart

Patient Label

Time/Date			
Sites inserted		Sites attempted	
R Tibial		R Tibial	
L Tibial		L Tibial	
Other		Other	

Guidance

There should only be one attempt at insertion in each bone
 The IO needle should be secured without bandaging the limb so that the limb can be seen and monitored
 One nurse must be solely responsible for monitoring the IO needle at all times

Observation Chart – to be completed every 15 minutes

Time							
Capillary refill time in distal limb (secs)							
Colour of limb *							
Visible swelling of limb Y/N **							
Limb feels firm Y/N **							

*
 Colour of limb
 Pink = 1
 Pale = 2
 Blue/White = 3

**
 Always compare with other limb



Suspect extravasation if
 CRT > 4secs / colour is 2 or 3 / limb swelling / limb firmness

Actions if suspected infiltration

Stop infusions immediately
 Remove IO needle

Call senior orthopaedic doctor to consider immediate fasciotomy
 Orthopaedic registrar at Southampton or Oxford available for advice if none available locally