iv mastery
INFUSION THERAPY

Before a student inserts a short peripheral IV catheter, it's essential to assess their knowledge, skills, and readiness to ensure patient safety and the success of the procedure. Here are some questions to ask the student and some successful answers:

1. **Patient Assessment and Consent:**
   - What is the purpose of reviewing the patient's medical history and treatment plan?
     Reviewing the patient's medical history and treatment plan is essential to identify potential contraindications or risks related to venipuncture and IV therapy.
   - Can you explain the purpose and indications for inserting a peripheral IV catheter in this patient?
     The purpose of inserting a peripheral IV catheter may vary depending on the patient's medical condition and treatment needs, such as administering medications, fluids, or blood products.
   - What is the purpose of obtaining informed consent?
     Obtaining informed consent is necessary to ensure the patient understands the procedure, its purpose, potential risks, and gives permission for the catheter insertion.
2. **Aseptic Technique and Infection Control:**
   - What are the key principles of aseptic technique, and why is it crucial during IV catheter insertion?
     Aseptic technique involves maintaining a sterile environment to prevent the introduction of microorganisms into the patient's bloodstream during the procedure.
   - What is the purpose of proper hand hygiene and the use of personal protective equipment?
     Proper hand hygiene, including washing hands thoroughly with soap and water or using an alcohol-based hand sanitizer, is essential before donning sterile gloves.
3. **Equipment Familiarity:**
   - Can you identify and describe the purpose of each piece of equipment needed for the IV catheter insertion?
     The necessary equipment for IV catheter insertion includes the IV catheter itself, Saline flush, extension tubing, clean gloves, and an IV insertion kit, including a tourniquet, a sterile transparent dressing, antiseptic solution, adhesive tape, and 2x2 sterile gauze.
   - How will you select the appropriate size and length of the IV catheter for this patient?
     Selecting the appropriate size and length of the IV catheter is based on vein size and status/location/dilation / Type and duration of therapy.
4. **Site Selection and Preparation:**
   - How will you choose the insertion site for the IV catheter?
     The ideal insertion site is chosen based on factors like vein condition, patient age, and the planned duration of IV therapy. Common sites include veins on the forearm, upper arm, and hand.
   - When should you perform a site rotation, and where can you find that information?

- *The organization policy and procedure manual will contain this information. Typically, site rotation is performed every 72-96 hours.*

5. **Vein Assessment and Stabilization:**
   - How will you assess the vein's suitability for IV catheter insertion?
     Vein assessment involves palpating the vein to assess its size, depth, and direction, ensuring it is suitable for catheter insertion.
6. **Insertion Technique:**
   - Can you describe the proper angle for inserting the IV catheter?
     The IV catheter is inserted into the vein at a 20–30-degree angle using a quick, smooth, and controlled motion.
7. **Confirmation of Successful Venipuncture:**
   - How will you confirm that you have successfully accessed the vein during insertion?
     A successful venipuncture is confirmed when a blood flashback is seen in the catheter's flashback chamber during insertion.
   - What will you do if you encounter difficulty during the procedure?
     If there are difficulties during the procedure, the healthcare provider may adjust the angle or attempt to reposition the catheter slightly. Remember that no more than two attempts should be allowed per nurse. Each attempt requires a new catheter.
8. **Securing the Catheter:**
   - How will you secure the IV catheter to prevent accidental dislodgment?
     After successful insertion, the IV catheter is secured with an adhesive dressing and a securement device, or a tension loop, to prevent accidental dislodgment.
9. **Patient Comfort and Post-Procedure Care:**
   - How will you ensure the patient's comfort during and after the procedure?
     The healthcare provider should ensure the patient's comfort during the procedure by explaining each step and addressing any concerns or discomfort.
   - What are some of the most common complications from a peripheral catheter insertion that you will monitor for?
     After the procedure, the IV site should be monitored regularly for signs of complications such as infiltration, phlebitis, or infection.
10. **Documentation:**
    - What information should be documented after the IV catheter insertion, and where will you record it?
      Proper documentation is crucial after the IV catheter insertion. The healthcare provider should, at minimum, record the date, time, site, catheter size, and any relevant patient responses or complications and teaching provided.