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Peripheral difficult intravenous access (DIVA) of children admitted to a tertiary hospital in Oman

Peripheral intravenous (IV) access is a common performed procedure in hospitals. Despite being a common procedure, studies have reported that IV access is challenging and not easily obtained in all patients. In fact, difficulty in placing a peripheral IV line in children is very common and usually viewed as a frustrating experience for the children and their parents as well as for health care professionals. Thus, it has been advocated that early recognition of children at risk for difficult intravenous access (DIVA) would allow health care providers deciding the level of expertise of the health care professional who should attempt for IV catheter placement and on the value of attempting IV catheter placement versus using an alternative route for treatment. Therefore, studies have been conducted in order to develop a clinical prediction tools to determine the success or failure chances of peripheral IV catheter placement in children. Yet, these tools have not been utilized widely to evaluate their effectiveness and precision. A prospective cohort study of children aged 0 to 18 years undergoing peripheral intravenous placement by staff nurses in emergency department, pediatric day care unit and pediatric inpatient wards was conducted from September to December 2015. An online tool is designed to gather data on candidates' predictor variables based on relevant literature. A total of 511 children were studied. Of them, 300 (58.7%) and 211 (41.3%) were male and female children respectively. The overall success rate for the first IV attempt is 76.5%. While, 23.5% of the children had more than one IV access attempt. Three main variables were significantly associated with DIVA including obesity or underweight and veins visibility and palpability. This study indicates that a significant number of children admitted to Sultan Qaboos University Hospital had DIVA. Therefore, creating a DIVA predicating tool is essential, taking into account the variables significantly associated with DIVA.

Biography

Al-Awaisi H has graduated with BSc in Nursing from Queen Margaret Univrstiy, Edinburgh in 2000. Then, got her Master's degree in Advanced Nursing Practice (cancer studies) from the University of Manchester in 2005 and got her PhD in Nursing from the University of Manchester in 2012. She has worked in Cancer Care from 2001 until 2008. Currently working as Head of Section Nursing Research in the nursing section at Sultan Qaboos University Hospital in Oman working towards promoting nursing research.

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