



PICC EXCELLENCE NEWS

The latest from the leader in vascular access education

NOVEMBER 2024

Welcome to the November issue of the PICC Excellence newsletter!

We know your time is valuable and we appreciate your readership each month.

As we reflect on the impact of the two recent hurricanes, we are filled with gratitude for the resilience we see in our communities as well as the outpouring of help from volunteers and first responders. We also commend clinicians who are dealing with IV fluid shortages and still providing high-quality care to their patients.

With Thanksgiving just around the corner, it's the perfect moment to pause, appreciate what we have, and recognize the small acts of kindness that made a big difference. This season reminds us not only to be thankful but also to extend that spirit of care in our professions.

PICC Excellence is grateful to you, our colleagues and customers. We wish you a healthy and productive holiday season filled with the joy of family and friends.

Educate Your Team Using Uniform Standards with our MULTI-USER ACCESS EDUCATION

We'd like to congratulate both our recent multi-user access renewing partners and our new purchasers.

Organizations from coast to coast—and even overseas—are benefiting from our quality programs designed to meet their educational needs. We're grateful for the opportunity to support them.

Whether you're part of a rural clinic, military base, regional hospital, or a large multi-entity healthcare system, our multi-user access solutions are tailored to match your unique needs.

Help your facility stay compliant and excel in best practices with our multi-user access education opportunities.

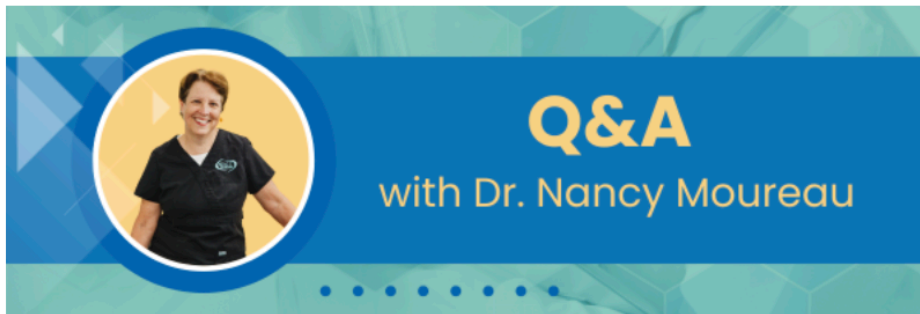
Join the many organizations maintaining top-tier vascular access standards. Contact us today!

[Learn More](#)



National Nurse Practitioners Week **November 10-16**

PICC Excellence celebrates and acknowledges the exceptional work of all the NPs. Enjoy your week!



Dr. Nancy Moureau offers counsel to hundreds of practitioners around the world. Each month we share a question from a colleague, which she answers pulling from her decades of experience in the field. If you have a question for Dr. Moureau, email it to info@piccexcellence.com.

QUESTION

Our institution is looking into training bedside nurses to remove PICCs.

May I ask what is the rationale for applying a tourniquet on the upper arm if one suspects a breakage in the PICC upon removal? Can a pressure cuff be substituted to apply the pressure?

ANSWER

The greatest concern with PICC removal is breakage. Fortunately, power-injectable PICCs are now stronger and less likely to break. If breakage occurs, it is best to catch the fragment while it is in the arm. By immediately applying a tourniquet or blood pressure cuff to the upper arm, the fragment is often localized and easily retrieved. Even if the clinician can see the fragment at the insertion site they should apply pressure to the upper arm with the tourniquet or blood pressure cuff.

At this year's AVA annual meeting, Dr. Moureau collaborated with Matthew Ostroff to create a poster presentation about the 3 Stations of the Needle, a training process that produces greater accuracy in vascular access insertions.

AVA 2024
This poster was presented at the AVA Annual Scientific Meeting in Denver, Colorado.

Disclosures
The authors received no financial support for the research, authorship, and/or publication of this abstract.

Purpose/Background
The goal of this investigation was to establish a process of training that would improve consistent performance and outcomes. Over the past two decades, the application of ultrasound for venous enhanced the safety and efficacy of the most frequently performed invasive procedure in healthcare, the peripheral intravenous catheter insertion (PIVC). While ultrasound application reflects positive outcomes, complications continue to occur, many related to inconsistency in training and competency assessment. The identified gap in the procedural literature is a detailed and systematic protocol that addresses needle identification to vessel cannulation using ultrasound guidance. This critical phase of the insertion process not only determines successful vessel cannulation but also helps to avoid many complications such as failed attempts, arterial or nerve puncture, and post-insertion infiltration/extravasation. Mastery learning with minimal performance skills guides a process of training to produce greater consistency in insertions. The 3-Stations of the Needle were developed as part of the training process to achieve these objectives.

Results
The 3-Stations of the Needle provides a replicable ultrasound training method applied to every insertion for peripheral and central catheter placement producing greater consistency for first insertion success.

The Importance of Needling Skills and 3-Stations of the Needle for UGPIV Training and Success
Matthew Ostroff, MSN, APN, VA-BC, CPUI, St. Joseph's Healthcare System; Nancy Moureau, PhD, RN, CRNI, CPUI, VA-BC, PICC Excellence, Inc.

Three Stations of the Needle
1 Identify the needle tip
2 Advance to top of vein
3 Enter vein

Process/Limitations
This newly launched 3-Stations of the Needle skills process is standardized training within a Mastery Learning Certificate program. While limited outcome data is published, the clinician feedback from beginners and advanced inserters validates improved performance with the application of the skills. The blended online courses and 5 skills modules take the learner through a series of steps to validate performance, requiring a commitment of approximately 12 hours to complete the training. Additional time is required for supervised insertions and the Mastery Rating Scale, which signifies achievement competency. An ongoing data collection process further validates performance and can be used quarterly or annually to check the success and dwell time levels of the UGPIV insertions.

Conclusion
This systematic process of UGPIV training that applies the 3-Stations of the Needle and level of performance provides a training process that is standardized to apply to any clinician and healthcare facility. Following a thorough review of the Mastery Training and adherence to INS Standard, this training program received the first INS Seal of Approval for UGPIV education.

References
1. Nicolai R, Gurell L, Kridon T, et al. Infection Therapy Standards of Practice, 9th Edition. J Infect Dis. 2024; 329(10):1470-1475. doi:10.1093/infdis/jiaa008.
2. Anika AE, Parnowski SE, Davis EM, et al. Simulation-Based Mastery Learning Improves Ultrasound-Guided Peripheral Intravenous Catheter Insertion Skills of Practicing Nurses. Simul Healthc. 2022 Feb; 17(2):17-24.
3. Strohmeier K, et al. Education in the placement of ultrasound-guided peripheral venous catheters: a systematic review. Qual Health Res. 2019 Jun; 29(6):818-831.

Click the image to download a copy of the poster.

Master the 3 Stations of the Needle in UGPIV Workshop December 10

You can get hands-on training on applying the 3 stations of the needle in our next ultrasound-guided peripheral IV therapy workshop, scheduled for December 10 in Greenville, SC.

This training sets the framework for earning a Mastery Learning certificate, demonstrating proficiency in utilizing ultrasound for accurate IV placement.

Register