

# SimLabSolutions

## Community Skills Trainers: IV ARM Series – Adult Skills Trainer

The adult IV arms come in three formats: **Adult Male, Adult Female, and Geriatric** in three skin tones.

### IV Arm Formats:

**Adult Male:** Easy to identify visual cues that align with the veins in arm.

**Adult Female:** Reduced visual cues, veins sit deeper in the channel to increase difficulty of IV access.

**Adult Geriatric:** Skin aged to reflect a more fragile patient. Visual cues align with veins, some veins set deeper in channels and some veins with wider channels to increase vein movement.

### Fluid Supply Setup:

(1) Bottle of *Pocket Nurse® Simulated Blood* is included with training arm. Follow mixing directions on bottle prior to adding to arm fluid supply bag.

*If you use different synthetic simulation blood, use of a dilute solution is recommended. This reduces the cleanup and flushing time after training and reduces potential staining. For example, add 10–15mL (2–3 tsp) per 1 liter of distilled water.*

Once the fluid mix is placed in the fluid bag, attach the taper end of the tube connector into the line without the line locking clip. Make sure the line locking clip on the drain line is open. Place a catch basin or garbage can under the drain line.

Next, elevate the fluid supply 12–18" above the arm. This will provide the pressure to generate the blood flash when an IV catheter is inserted into the IV tubing.

Once elevated, slowly open the slide valve or clip on the fluid supply bag and allow the fluid to flow into the arm. Once the fluid comes out of the outlet IV tubing into the catch basin and is steady, and the same color as in the fluid supply bag, close the line locking clip on the outlet IV tubing on the arm. If the IV tubing is not primed, ensure that the line locking clip is fully open and that the fluid supply bag elevation is maintained above 12" and slide valve is open.

### Insertion of IV Catheter:

To extend the life of the IV tubing and silicone skin, use a smaller bore needle, 22-gauge or higher. Silicone based tapes work well with silicone skin; these are the skin shear prevention tapes like those manufactured by 3M as well as others.

### Flushing lines:

After training, the tubing can be flushed. Empty fluid supply bag and run water through the bag and bag's line until it runs clear. Fill bag with at least 500mL of water, then attach to the IV following the arm priming procedure above. The only change is the line locking clip is left open until the water runs clear and the fluid bag is empty. If the IV arm is going to be stored for a long period, (several months) 5–10mL of bleach can be added to flush.



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