



# External Jugular IV

Advanced EMT

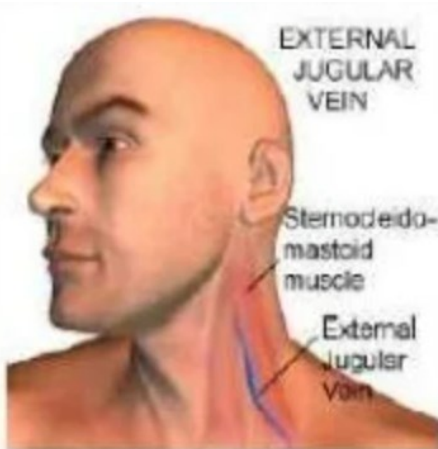
Paramedic

## PROCEDURE

# NEW

- Place patient in Trendelburg or supine position and rotate head to opposite side of preferred EJ site.
  - If having difficulty locating the site and the patient is responsive, instruct the patient to bear down.
- Position yourself at the head of the bed facing the patient
- Clean skin with alcohol swab
- Use non-dominant thumb to provide counter-traction and index finger to tamponade vein just above the clavicle
- Insert needle into vein midway between angle of mandible and clavicle until flash is seen
- Advance catheter over needle
- Attach pre-flushed IV tubing and apply dressing

## REFERENCE GRAPHICS



## KEY POINTS

- **NEVER USE A TOURNIQUET WHEN ATTEMPTING AN IV IN THE EXTERNAL JUGULAR VEIN**
- An EJ should only be performed if all other IV sites are unavailable and IO placement is impractical or impossible.
- A large bore needle should be used for an EJ (at least 18g).
- Neck skin is typically tougher than other areas when attempting an IV.
- An EJ IV is typically positional. If there is difficulty administering fluid after successful placement, reposition the patient's neck.

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