


INTRAVENOUS (IV) LINE PRIMING		
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Approval: Corey Petrie, Interim Regional Manager, Centre for Prehospital Care & Trauma Services	Frequency: As Required, in accordance with the Intravenous and Fluid Medical Directive.	
Signature: 		

Purpose: To ensure a consistent standardized practice when priming an intravenous line.

	Content	Details
1.	Ensure protective caps on the IV line are in place and it is not expired.	Inspect the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Solution type • Volume • Clarity & Integrity • Expiry date • No leaks or precipitates • Port and safety caps in place
2.	Remove all equipment from the protective outer wrap and hang the IV solution.	
3.	Prepare IV tubing using aseptic technique (60 gtt set = micro, 10, 15 or 20 gtt set = macro)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The number is indicative of the amount of drops that will be equivalent to 1 ml
4.	Slide the roller clamp of the IV tubing up as close as it can get to the drip chamber.	
5	Close the roller clamp of the IV tubing and then remove the plastic protector from the IV solution outlet and from the spike on the IV tubing	Do not let the solution outlet or IV spike get contaminated.
56	Insert the spike of the IV tubing set into the IV solution outlet using a twisting motion until the internal membrane is broken. This is usually signified by a small air bubble.	
7.	Squeeze the drip chamber on the IV tubing in order to fill it to the fill-line.	
8.	Open the roller clamp on IV tubing filling the IV tubing, then close the roller clamp.	If the IV line is equipped with a check valve, turn the check valve upside down until the fluid has passed it then turn it upright again.
9.	Should air be present within this system, it must be purged by continuing the IV flow until all air is released from the distal end of the IV tubing.	



10.

Label the IV solution by either writing directly onto the bag, or onto an affixed piece of tape.

The date and time and your initials should be included on this label.

Expected Outcome: To safely prime an intravenous line.