
Overview

This standard covers the extraction of bone marrow, using trephine and bone marrow needle, for the purpose of diagnosis and treatment monitoring. It covers the selection of an appropriate site and the initial post-procedure handling of the specimens obtained. It also includes the assessment of the patient's fitness for the procedure.

Users of this standard will need to ensure that practice reflects up to date information and policies.

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Performance criteria

You must be able to:

- P1 check the environment and equipment to ensure that everything is properly prepared for the procedure including the availability of emergency kits
- P2 ensure that the appropriate consent procedure has been completed
- P3 read the patient's notes and relevant investigation results and identify any special instructions, investigations or issues for which you need to seek advice
- P4 greet and accurately identify the patient
- P5 introduce yourself and any colleagues involved in the procedure to the patient and/or carer
- P6 review the patient's history since their last attendance
- P7 assess the patient's physical condition and their fitness for the procedure and seek advice from an appropriate team member if required
- P8 assess the patient's psychological and emotional state and respond appropriately including referrals to appropriate agencies and personnel
- P9 explain the procedure and potential complications and their management to the patient and/or carer and accurately answer any questions at a level and pace that is appropriate to:
 - P9.1 their level of understanding
 - P9.2 their culture and background
 - P9.3 their preferred ways of communicating
 - P9.4 their needs
- P10 check that the patient and/or carer understands the procedure to be undertaken and any potential complications
- P11 determine whether or not the patient is willing to proceed
- P12 determine the patient's need for sedation and, if required, ensure that patent intra-venous access is available
- P13 monitor the patient's oxygen saturation as appropriate
- P14 identify the site to be used taking account of the patient's history, body size and ease of access
- P15 position the patient correctly for the procedure respecting their dignity and ensuring their comfort within the constraints of the procedure
- P16 introduce local anaesthetic to the chosen area and check for loss of sensation
- P17 undertake the procedure according to local control of infection and COSHH guidelines
- P18 maintain communications with the patient and/or carer during the procedure and respond to any questions
- P19 make a first insertion to aspirate the fluid sample and use this to produce slides for microscopic examination in line with local guidelines
- P20 determine whether or not the patient is willing to continue with a further

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- insertion
- P21 make a second insertion into the bone marrow using a trephine needle and aspirate a further sample of bone marrow
 - P22 place samples into a suitable histopathology sample container ensuring that this contains the appropriate fixative
 - P23 on completion of the procedure dress the wound according to local guidelines
 - P24 decide to select an alternative site or abandon the procedure if the initial aspiration attempt produces no sample. Ensure that the decision to proceed is taken in consultation with the patient and takes account of their physical and emotional state
 - P25 provide post-procedure care appropriate to the level of sedation and according to local guidelines
 - P26 ensure all sample containers, microscope slide labels and request forms are accurately and comprehensively completed
 - P27 dispose of contaminated waste and sharps according to local guidelines
 - P28 remind the patient and/or carer of the information and advice they have already been given with regard to lifestyle and complications and respond to any questions or requests for information
 - P29 confirm the details of the next appointment and any prior investigations or tests with the patient and/or carer, if appropriate
 - P30 provide information on how to obtain help at any time
 - P31 assess the patient's condition (both physical and emotional) at the conclusion of the treatment and take appropriate action
 - P32 record the details of the treatment in the patient's notes and patient held records, as appropriate, according to local guidelines
 - P33 communicate with appropriate professional colleagues as required by local guidelines
 - P34 recognise when you need help and/or advice and seek this from appropriate sources

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Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

- K1 local infection control guidelines
- K2 the COSHH guidelines
- K3 the local guidelines for waste and sharps handling and disposal
- K4 the national and local guidelines for consent to invasive procedures
- K5 the local guidelines for patient identification
- K6 the local guidelines for patient records, their storage and confidentiality of information
- K7 the range of information which should be made available to the patient
- K8 the local guidelines for risk management and adverse incidents
- K9 the appropriate sites for bone marrow aspiration
- K10 the use of bone marrow examination in diagnosis and treatment monitoring
- K11 the drugs used for sedation, their indications and contra-indications
- K12 local anaesthetics available for use for bone marrow aspiration and their indications and contra-indications
- K13 the signs and symptoms of the patient's physical and emotional status
- K14 the medical terminology relevant to the procedure
- K15 the range of relevant diagnostic and monitoring investigations, their normal parameters and the significance of results outside the normal parameters
- K16 the safe operation of bone marrow aspiration needles and trephines
- K17 the importance of timely equipment fault recognition and the local procedures for dealing with these
- K18 equipment limitations and routine maintenance
- K19 the roles and responsibilities of other team members, associated professionals and agencies
- K20 the limits of one's own knowledge and experience and the importance of not operating beyond these
- K21 the importance of clear communications

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Additional Information

External Links

This standard links with the following dimension within the NHS Knowledge and Skills Framework (October 2004):

Dimension: HWB6 Assessment and treatment planning

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