

- **Clinical skills (1), (2) and (3): Measuring body temperature, blood pressure, pulse, respiratory rate and oxygen saturation using manual techniques and automated electronic devices**

Procedure
<p>Initiating the procedure - to include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Gathers relevant equipment Introduces self Identifies the patient Explanation and rationale Gains consent
<p>Preparation of equipment/patient – to include</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Demonstrates correct technique for hand washing Asks a series of pre-assessment questions Asks the patient to roll up their sleeve Supports the arm so that the upper arm is at the level of the heart
<p>Performance of Blood Pressure – to include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Places the cuff 2cm above the antecubital fossa Inflates the cuff and obtains an estimated systolic pressure whilst palpating the radial pulse. Then deflates the cuff Correctly places the stethoscope over the brachial artery Re-inflates the cuff between 10 – 30 above the estimated systolic then, whilst auscultating the brachial artery, deflates the cuff at a rate of 2mm/Hg/second to obtain the systolic and diastolic pressure readings
<p>Performance of radial pulse – to include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Locates the radial artery Palpates the radial artery for a minimum of 15 seconds
<p>Performance of respiratory rate</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Whilst appearing to the patient to be palpating the radial pulse, counts the respiratory rate for a minimum of 15 seconds
<p>Performance of body temperature – to include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Places a disposable cover on the thermometer probe Inserts the probe gently into the ear canal at the correct angle for accurate measurement Activates and waits for signal before removing the thermometer and reading the result
<p>Performance of blood pressure using a Dynamap – to include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Collects the relevant equipment Places the cuff in the correct position on the arm Operates the equipment as per guidelines Obtains the blood pressure reading
<p>Oxygen saturation measurement – to include</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Correctly attaches the saturation probe on patient's finger Observes and notes the correct oxygen saturation
<p>Completes relevant documentation correctly, accurately recording findings.</p>