

The Paracentesis Competency Assessment Tool (PCAT) – Diagnostic Paracentesis

Resident Name:	Evaluator:	Date:	
I. Paracentesis Checklist			
Procedure Step	Yes	No	Item clarification
1. <i>Obtains informed consent^a</i>	Y	N	Appropriately names risks (ex: infection, bleeding, abdominal organ puncture, death) and benefits: (ex: diagnosis and/or therapeutic relief)
2. <i>Washes hands with soap and water or hand sanitizer</i>	Y	N	
3. Positions patient appropriately	Y	N	Supine or lateral decubitus, head of bed elevated
4. Inspects abdominal wall	Y	N	Notes location of scars, cellulitis, and collateral veins
5. Percusses the abdomen	Y	N	Notes tympany vs dullness
6. Palpates the abdomen and selects site	Y	N	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Palpates and notes lateral border of rectus and chooses site 2 fingerbreadths superior and 2 fingerbreadths medial to anterior iliac spine • Unless contraindicated, chooses LLQ.
7. Confirms appropriateness of site using ultrasound	Y	N	Uses low frequency probe to confirm: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presence of ascites • Lack of nearby bowel
8. Marks site with needle cap or sterile marker	Y	N	
9. Calls “time out”	Y	N	Confirms patient ID, procedure, and site by all members of team doing procedure and no allergy to local anesthetic
10. Washes hands again with soap and water	Y	N	
11. Puts on cap and mask, and then sterile gloves	Y	N	Optional: Applies sterile or non-sterile gown
12. <i>Cleans area with sterilizing solution (chlorhexidine/betadine)</i>	Y	N	Must dispose of swab appropriately without contaminating sterile environment

13.Drapes the area	Y	N	
14.Sets up the kit	Y	N	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appropriately draws lidocaine and ensures no air in syringe • Attaches Yueh catheter or paracentesis needle to syringe •
15.Uses lidocaine to anesthetize the skin (wheal)	Y	N	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Uses smaller bore needle • Constantly aspirates before injecting
16.Anesthetizes deeper	Y	N	If no peritoneal fluid obtained from initial anesthetic, switches to larger bore needle to anesthetize the peritoneum
17. Using the diagnostic needle/syringe, enters the skin while aspirating	Y	N	
18. <i>Continues advancing the catheter/needle complex while aspirating until peritoneal fluid is aspirated</i>	Y	N	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stops advancing the needle once peritoneal fluid is obtained • Pulls off enough fluid for diagnostic studies
19.Maintains sterile technique	Y	N	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Does not contaminate sterile field with unsterile equipment • Keeps gloved hands sterile up until tubing is accessed
20.Places dressing	Y	N	
21.Positions the patient with area up	Y	N	
22.Send fluid for diagnostic studies	Y	N	Always sends for cell count
23.Cleans up	Y	N	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Caps needles by sliding needle into cap on table using one hand, secures cap in place only once sure it is over the needle or • Directly disposes of uncapped needles in sharps container

II. Global Skills Assessment Scale

1	2	3	4
<p>Novice</p> <p>Early stage of learning where skills are learned through imitation and/or trial and error; unsure of next steps</p>	<p>Advanced Beginner</p> <p>Skills have become habitual and the movements can be performed with some confidence, but lack refinement</p>	<p>Able</p> <p>A solid performer as indicated by quick, accurate and highly coordinated performance</p>	<p>Proficient</p> <p>Skills are well developed and the individual can modify movement patterns to address difficult or new situations</p>

III. Entrustment Scale: At what level do you entrust the resident to perform paracentesis?

1	2	3	4	5
Critical Deficiencies: Can observe the procedure only, needs re-training before performing on live patients	Able to perform the procedure under direct supervision	Able to perform the procedure with supervision available in minutes (i.e. operates smoothly, but may need to call for help)	Able to perform the procedure without any supervision	Able to supervise or instruct others learning the procedure
Final Score: _____ Checklist _____ Global _____ Entrustment				
[For Reference: Minimum Passing Standard: <u>16/23</u> Checklist <u>2</u> Global <u>2</u> Entrustment Unsupervised Practice Standard: <u>20/23</u> Checklist <u>3</u> Global <u>4</u> Entrustment]				

^aItems in italics denote essential steps that if not done result in automatic fail