

Basic tips for the Prevention of Common Complications in Pediatric Cardiac Catheterization

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Cardiac catheterization continues to become safer thanks to new, smaller catheters, flow-directed balloon catheters, less toxic contrast agents, and improved precatheterization imaging systems for detail anatomy. Nevertheless, the frequency of complications is not low, because the age of catheterization is getting younger, even in premature babies, and the frequency of high risk intervention has increased. Although not all events are preventable, many are avoidable if we keep several precautions. I recommend 8 basic commandments to prevent significant complications in pediatric cardiac catheterization.

8 commandments

1. Precatheterization note in detail
2. Prepare all for cath complications (embolization, perforation etc)
3. Discuss with colleagues when something is unusual or unknown situations
4. Do not repeat same trial more than 3 times to access
5. Do not push harder when you feel some resistance on the catheter or wire.
6. Keep the wire position securely during BAP or stenting
7. Consider vessel compliance in BAP or stent
8. Use general anesthesia in high risk interventional cases