

Starting in transverse plane allows you to visualize the lung and artery easier, its easiest to locate starting from the clavicle and then moving caudal and lateral, and limiting pressure is always good to avoid collapsing veins

Name:

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The clavicle is bone and the shadow interferes both ultrasound wise and due to the anatomy of the vessel diving behind it, the second rib is posterior to the vessel

Longitudinal is more difficult but allows visualization of needle throughout procedure, the lung is only a few mm past the vein

Reviewer Comments

This should be done to confirm the vessel cannulated and can be used to perform lung sliding, can look in transverse, but longitudinal is best to see length

Common mistake seen is not having enough depth, usually internal jugular only needs 2-3 cm but subclavian must start higher and then optimize once all structures seen: vein, artery, pleural line

1. Which of the following is the best method to assess the subclavian vein with ultrasound?
 - A. Start scan in transverse plane of vessels
 - B. Place probe above the lateral clavicle and then slide caudally
 - C. Limit the pressure on your probe to avoid collapsing the vein
 - D. All of the above**
2. Which of the following interfere with finding the subclavian vein on ultrasound?
 - A. The clavicle**
 - B. The pleura and air filled lung
 - C. The second rib
 - D. The sternocleidomastoid muscle attachment
3. What is the preferred method of ultrasound guided subclavian vein access?
 - A. Longitudinal - because decreased risk of perforating the posterior wall of the vein**
 - B. Longitudinal - because you can see both the artery and the vein in this view
 - C. Transverse - because it has the least risk of pneumothorax or hemothorax
 - D. Transverse - because you can only see the vein in this view
4. Ultrasound use in post catheter placement is:
 - A. Can be used to evaluate pleural line for pneumothorax
 - B. Line best seen in longitudinal view
 - C. Not recommended
 - D. Both A and B**
5. What is the expected depth when looking for subclavian vessels?
 - A. Less than 1 cm
 - B. Between 2-3 cm
 - C. Between 3-5 cm**