Key Steps — Giving an intravenous injection

The key steps for this skill, in the order they are demonstrated in the video. Part of our IV Therapy & Vascular Access skills collection.

- ☐ 1. Verify the medication order, and check the patient's identity and allergies.
- ☐ 2. Perform hand hygiene and prepare the medication, checking the dose as you draw it up.
- ☐ 3. Inspect the IV site and check the line is patent and running as expected before you give anything through it.
- ☐ 4. Clean the injection port with an antiseptic swab and let it dry.
- ☐ 5. Flush the line as local policy directs, watching for resistance, leaking or pain.
- ☐ 6. Administer the medication at the rate stated in the prescription and the medication's guidance.
- ☐ 7. Flush again after the dose so the full dose reaches the patient and the line stays clear.
- ☐ 8. Observe the patient and the site during and after the injection.
- ☐ 9. Dispose of sharps immediately and document the medication, dose, route and time.

Watch the demonstration: medicalvideos.com/watch/learn-intravenous-injection-video_qD1IfLFXgYNXVSxlFDfl.html

- More IV Therapy & Vascular Access skills: medicalvideos.com/nursing/iv-therapy.html

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Steps summarise this demonstration for education and do not replace your institution's protocol, which always governs. Content reviewed by Dr. Mohamed Ibrahim, MD, PhD — physician-scientist. October 2026.