

Procedure Competency Assessment Tool – Lumbar Puncture

1. Faculty/ Staff completing evaluation*:

2. Date*:

3. Assession number*:

4. Indication/Informed Consent*:

- **Novice:** Not sure of the patient's history, context of the procedure, or has knowledge gaps in procedure contraindications or potential complications
- **Competent:** Understands the general indications, contraindications, potential complications, and clinical value of procedure; able to explain to patient
- **Expert:** Clearly articulates the clinical value, potential complications, and alternatives to patient; able to accurately answer all patient questions to obtain informed consent

5. Knowledge of Specific Procedure*:

- **Novice:** Deficient knowledge; unable to articulate procedure steps
- **Competent:** Able to articulate all important steps of procedure
- **Expert:** Demonstrates familiarity with all aspects of procedure

6. Procedure Setup*:

- **Novice:** Does not gather required supplies, poor patient positioning, poor sterile technique, or does not properly identify landmarks
- **Competent:** Gathers key instruments and supplies; properly positions patient; identifies landmarks and needle entry site; maintains sterile technique
- **Expert:** Anticipates supplies needed for unexpected complications; ergonomic setup of all instruments and supplies

7. Fluoro*:

- **Novice:** Unsure of orientation and alignment of x-ray tube, how to optimize image, or difficulty identifying key anatomy
- **Competent:** Properly orients and aligns the x-ray tube to acquire the necessary images; identifies key anatomy and the appropriate interlaminar space
- **Expert:** Rapidly acquires optimal images (patient positioning, tube angulation, collimation, etc.) to visualize and guide needle to target

8. Needle Positioning*:

- **Novice:** Corrections needed to properly position and direct needle or handle stylet
- **Competent:** Properly handles stylet, independently positions and directs needle, repositioning or redirecting as needed
- **Expert:** Easily positions and directs needle without need for repositioning or redirection

Procedure Competency Assessment Tool – Lumbar Puncture

9. Manometry*: [] **Not Applicable**

- **Novice:** Improper positioning or timing to take accurate CSF pressure measurement
- **Competent:** Demonstrates proper technique to obtain accurate CSF pressure measurement
- **Expert:** Obtains accurate CSF opening pressure measurement with ease

10. Procedure Flow and Efficiency*:

- **Novice:** Frequently stops procedure and seems unsure of next move, or many unnecessary moves
- **Competent:** Demonstrates some forward planning with reasonable progression of procedure; efficient time/motion but some unnecessary moves
- **Expert:** Obviously plans course of procedure with effortless flow from one move to the next; clear economy of movement and maximum efficiency

11. Management of Complications*: [] **Not Applicable**

- **Novice:** Does not recognize or appropriately address developing complication
- **Competent:** Recognizes and appropriately addresses developing complication
- **Expert:** Immediately recognizes developing complication; manages with precise direction and without hesitation

12. Overall on this task did the trainee demonstrate competency to perform this procedure “independently”*?

- **Yes**
- **No**

13. Things to continue doing...

14. Things to work on...

15. Comments
