

SKILL GUIDE 7-7**Skill Guide**

Date: _____

(CPI) = Critical Performance Indicator

Candidate: _____

Start Time: _____

End Time: _____

Obtaining a Blood Pressure by Auscultation**Objective:** To measure a blood pressure by auscultation.

Skill	Max Points	Skill Demo	
Initiates Standard Precautions.	1		(CPI)
Obtains permission to treat patient.	1		
Applies the cuff snugly to the humerus above the elbow ensuring that arrow on cuff points to brachial artery. Place the sphygmomanometer in position to easily read.	1		(CPI)
Palpates the brachial artery.	1		
Places the stethoscope diaphragm over the brachial artery and grasp the ball-pump. Turn the valve clockwise to close.	1		
Pumps a pressure of 160mmHg, if you can hear the pulse sound immediately inflate to 200mmHg. If you can still hear the heartbeat inflate in 20mm increments until no sound is heard. Open the valve counterclockwise and let the air escape slowly.	1		
Notes the number on the gauge where the first beat is heard (systolic pressure) as the needle descends.	1		(CPI)
Notes the number on the gauge where the last beat is heard (diastolic pressure).	1		(CPI)
Opens the valve, and quickly release remaining air.	1		

Must receive 7 out of 9 points.

Comments: _____

Failure of any of the CPIs is an automatic failure.

Evaluator: _____ NSP ID: _____

PASS FAIL