

Intravenous cannula for sterile ear piercing

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Ear piercing is highly popular globally. The traditional methods of ear piercing include passing a wire, followed by jewelry, piercing guns, intravenous cannula (18G) employed to pierce the ear lobule [1]. Other methods include the eyelet-type Teflon tube, angiocatheter, magnetic earrings, and a 14- or 16-gauge trocar needle antrum [2]. Other safe options for body piercing include solid gold of 14 or 18 karats, niobium, titanium, and platinum [3]. We feel that the cannula method is effective, as piercing is globally popular and the technique is easy and single staged. We made little modification to the technique, which is convenient and friendly to the patient.

The site was marked on the ear. It was anesthetized with topical lignocaine. A surgical clamp was employed to reduce blood flow to the site pierced. A 16-gauge intravenous cannula was passed from the anterior to posterior direction. After removing the stylet, the head of the cannula was cut with scissors (Figs. 1a and 1b),

leaving a plastic tube. The stud was passed directly through the plastic tube (Fig. 1c). The tube was removed and a stopper was attached to the stud. Antiseptic cleaning was performed and topical fusidic acid was applied. The ear piercing technique was shown on a video clip available at the editorial office.

The intravenous cannula is a cheap and sterile solution for body piercing.

Consent

The examination of the patient was conducted according to the principles of the Declaration of Helsinki.

The authors certify that they have obtained all appropriate patient consent forms, in which the patients gave their consent for images and other clinical information to be included in the journal. The patients understand that their names and initials will not be published and due effort will be made to conceal their identity, but that anonymity cannot be guaranteed.



Figure 1: (a and b) Stylet removed and the cannula head cut with scissors. (c) Stud passed through the plastic tube.

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and infection after the insertion of a piercing (even using the safest metal), by using quaternium-15. *Our Dermatol Online.* 2018;9:393-6.

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