

Administering an Intramuscular Injection

Participant must talk through practicum steps with judge.

CRITERIA	Points Possible	Points Earned
<p>The student selected the proper site for administration.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student selects the epaxial muscles OR the caudal thigh muscles. – 3 pts • Student places fingers around muscle mass of hind leg and squeezes leg to identify the femur OR student locates pelvis and spine and makes a V with two fingers on top of the spine in front of the pelvis. – 5 pts • Student sterilizes the injection site using a cotton ball saturated with alcohol. – 2 pts 	10	
<p>The student directs the needle through the skin and into the muscle.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student holds syringe perpendicular to the muscle mass (vertically towards the floor for epaxial OR horizontally toward the head for caudal) – 3 pts • Student avoids spine (epaxial) OR femur/sciatic nerve (caudal) – 2 pts • Student uses moderate pressure to direct the needle through the skin and into the muscle of the caudal aspect of the thigh OR the outside of the V made by the student’s fingers. – 5 pts 	10	
<p>The student aspirates; if no blood is noted, inject.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student pulls back on the syringe plunger – 2 pts • Student notes signs of blood entering the syringe. – 3 pts • Student injects the medication into the muscle with slow steady pressure. – 5 pts 	10	
<p>The student withdraws the needle and places in the sharps container.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student withdraws the needle from the injection site at the same angle it was inserted– 3 pts • Student checks for blood around the injection site. – 2 pts • Student leaves needle uncapped – 3 pts • Student places the needle in the sharps container. – 2 pts 	10	
<p>The student massages the area where the injection was given and praises the patient.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student massages the area where the injection was given. – 3 pts • Student checks for leakage of medication – 2pts • Student praises the patient. – 5 pts 	10	
TOTAL POINTS	50	