NOV 12, 2019

OPEN ACCESS

DOI:
dx.doi.org/10.17504/protocols.io.4s7gwhn

External link:
<https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0224825>

Protocol Citation: Pedro Coelho N Diogenes, Aline Naiara Azevedo da Silva, Fausto Pierdoná Guzen, Marco Aurelio de Moura Freire, José Rodolfo Lopes de Paiva Cavalcanti 2019. Upper limb superficial venous percussion as a sign of anatomical location and venous permeability.

protocols.io
<https://dx.doi.org/10.17504/protocols.io.4s7gwhn>

MANUSCRIPT CITATION:
 Diógenes PCN, Silva ANAd, Guzen FP, Freire MAdM, Cavalcanti JRLdP (2019) Evaluation of upper limb superficial venous percussion as a sign of anatomical location and venous permeability. A comparative study of superficial venous percussion to ultrasound findings on non-renal patients and on chronic kidney disease patients. PLoS ONE 14(11): e0224825. doi: [10.1371/journal.pone.0224825](https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0224825)

Upper limb superficial venous percussion as a sign of anatomical location and venous permeability

PLOS One

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Protocol status: Working

Created: Jun 26, 2019

Last Modified: Nov 12, 2019

PROTOCOL integer ID:
25151

- 1
The upper limb being examined was garrotted.
- 2
The anatomical sites of the main four superficial venous segments of the upper limbs was examined separately (cephalic vein in forearm, cephalic vein in arm, basilic vein in forearm and basilic vein in the arm).
- 3
Each segment was struck distally with forefinger of the dominant hand with the garrotted limb. Small impacts were generated on the patient's skin in the anatomical path of the superficial venous segment with the index finger of the dominant hand of the examiner at a point distal to the patient's limb, while the palmar face of the of the examiner's non-dominant hand was located at a proximal point on the way of this main superficial venous segment (about 15 cm away).
- 4
In the non-dominant hand of the examiner (proximal), the proximal perception of the transmitted distal wave impacts caused by percussion (impacts) with the index finger of the dominant (distal) hand resulted in a positive maneuver on the venous segment examined.
- 5
The maneuver was declared negative after at least 10 impacts generated by the dominant hand (distal) and not transmitted to the proximal hand of the examiner (about 15 seconds of attempts).

Percussion

A video demonstration is available at this following dropbox link

<https://www.dropbox.com/s/lu7m5jb2y0naxtm/percussao.mp4?dl=0>