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Pulse Sites

Temporal Pulse- During head-to-toe assessment and accessible site use to assess pulse in children

Carotid artery- used during physiological shock, cardiac arrest, or when other sites aren't palpable and usually assessed during CPR in an adult

Apical pulse- used during head-to-toe assessment or before the administration of digoxin

Brachial pulse- when assessing the blood pressure and during CPR in an infant, also to assess character of pulse peripherally and status of circulation to hand

Radial pulse- used to measure a pulse point in an adult and status of circulation to hand

Ulnar pulse- used to assess status of circulation to hand and used to perform Allen's test

Femoral pulse- used to assess character of pulse during physiological shock, cardiac arrest when other pulses are not palpable, used to assess circulation in the legs

Popliteal pulse- use to assess status of circulation to lower leg and

Posterior tibial- used to assess status of circulation to foot

Dorsalis pedis- used to assess status of circulation to foot