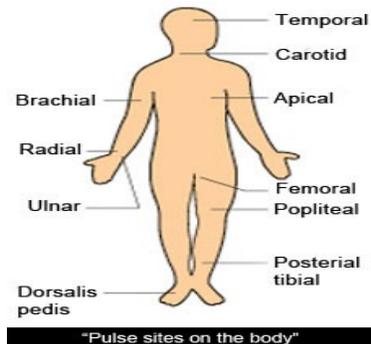


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Pulse Assignment
August 29, 2024



Your assignment (to be completed and placed in the “Week 2: Online Vital Signs Assignment” dropbox on Edvance360 by 8/29/2024 at 0800) is as follows:

-For each pulse site on the above image, list one reason why you as an RN may choose to use this site for pulse assessment. You can either give a generalized reason or a specific patient situation. Please put the pulse site and answer in a word document and include your name.

-Brachial- This pulse is produced by the brachial artery, which is found on the inside of the arm near the elbow crease. This is used when assessing an infant or baby because of the difficulty of feeling the radial pulse of a small child.

-Radial- This pulse location is palpated to evaluate the peripheral pulses and circulation to hand. It can be found on the thumb side of each hand. This pulse location is used for all adolescent to elderly patients.

-Temporal- This pulse location is located over the temporal bone of the head, above and lateral to the eye. This location is an easy access point to check the pulse of a child.

-Carotid- This pulse location is located along the medial edge of sternocleidomastoid muscle in the neck. This location is an easy access point to assess patients who are experiencing a physiological shock, cardiac arrest, or when other pulse locations are not easily accessible.

-Apical- This pulse location can be found between the fourth and fifth intercostal space on the left side of the chest. This location is a good location to assess an infant’s or young child’s pulse because other locations are deeper and difficult to palpate accurately.

-Ulnar- This location is located on the opposite side of the thumb on the forearm. This location is another place where we can evaluate the circulation of the hand and perform an Allen’s test.

-Femoral- This location is just below the inguinal ligament, midway between the pubis and the anterior superior iliac spine. This is another site that can be accessed in an event of physiological shock or cardiac arrest when pulses cannot be palpated in other locations.

-Popliteal- This location is located just behind the knee in the popliteal fossa. This site is used to assess circulation to the lower leg.

-Posterior tibial- located in the inner side of the ankle just below the medial malleolus. This site is used to assess status and circulation of the foot. We would palpate when the patient has experienced a trauma or injury to the foot or leg area, such as a break or fracture.

-Dorsalis pedis- This site is located along the top of the foot between the extension tendons of the great and first toe. This site is also used to assess the circulation of the foot.