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**Temporal:** A specific patient situation that could result in the temporal site being the best site to palpate a pulse is if the patient has severe trauma in their limbs. This could make it painful to feel for a pulse in some of the more common areas like the radial or carotid.

**Carotid:** A RN may choose this site because the carotid artery is very strong and easier to find in an emergency situation.

**Apical:** A specific patient situation that could result in the apical site being chosen is if the patient has heart related issues. For example, if a patient undergoes heart surgery the RN is most likely to listen to the apical site post-opt in order to hear for any abnormalities.

**Brachial:** A RN may choose this site is because they are assessing an infant and the brachial pulse is the best site to feel a pulse.

**Radial:** A RN may choose this site because of how easy it can be to find and palpate a pulse in the radial site. It can also be a more comfortable area for the patient to get their pulse checked at.

**Ulnar:** One reason why a RN might choose this pulse site is if the radial site is somehow damaged, perhaps due to trauma, and the ulnar site is still easily assessable.

**Femoral:** One reason why a RN may choose this pulse site is to checked if the patient's blood is flowing to their lower extremities, usually they have had severe trauma to their lower body or pelvis.

**Popliteal:** A RN might choose to use this pulse site if the patient has diabetes mellitus. This pulse site helps to checked if the patient's circulation is good.

**Dorsalis pedis:** One reason why a RN would use this pulse site is if the patient has edema in their lower limbs. This pulse site allows the RN to check if the swelling is compromising blood flow to the foot.

**Posterial tibial:** A RN might choose to use this pulse site if their patient is getting a cast put on their lower limb. By checking this pulse site, the RN can make sure that the cast is not restricting blood flow.