

# SELECTING CATHETER SIZE BASED ON CATHETER TO VEIN RATIO ASSESSMENT

Use the Catheter to Vein Ratio Table as a tool to help determine the appropriate catheter size for the vein in order to reduce risk of upper extremity catheter-related thrombosis. \*

Catheter to Vein Ratio Table												
Vessel Size	1mm	1.5mm	2mm	2.25mm	2.5mm	2.75mm	3mm	3.5mm	4mm	4.5mm	5mm	
Catheter Size												
24G	X											
22G	X	~										
20G	X	X										LEGEND
18G	X	X	~	~								≥45%
16G	X	X	X	X	X	~	~					44-34%
1 Fr												≤33%
2 Fr	~											
3 Fr	X	~										
4 Fr	X	X	~	~								
4.5 Fr	X	X	X	~	~							
5 Fr	X	X	X	X	~	~						
5.5 Fr	X	X	X	X	X	~						
6 Fr	X	X	X	X	X	X	~					
7 Fr	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	~				
8 Fr	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	~			

\*This tool is based on the current evidence and practice guidelines. These recommendations are subject to change as new evidence becomes available. For more details about this tool, see: Spencer, T., & Mahoney, K. (2017). Reducing catheter-related thrombosis using a risk reduction tool centered on catheter to vessel ratio. *Journal of Thrombosis and Thrombolysis*, 44(14).



Support for HMS is provided by Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Michigan and Blue Care Network as a part of the BCBSM Value Partnerships program. Although Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan and HMS work collaboratively, the opinions, beliefs, and viewpoints expressed by the author do not necessarily reflect the opinions, beliefs, and viewpoints of BCBSM or any of its employees.