PRACTICAL TIPS

PEEL-AWAY® SHEATH INTRODUCTION TECHNIQUE

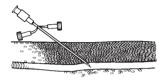






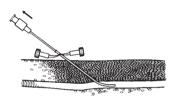
Prepare the access site

After prepping the access site, introduce the sheath needle into the vessel.



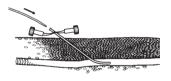
Withdraw the needle

Leaving the sheath in place, withdraw the needle. (To prevent inadvertent air aspiration, place thumb or finger over the cuffed proximal end of the sheath after removing the needle.)



Introduce the catheter into the sheath

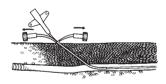
Introduce the catheter into the sheath; advance the catheter into position.



Insert the chest drain

By grasping the two knobs of the sheath and pulling outward and upward at the same time, peel the sheath away from the catheter. NOTE: Remove obturator after catheter is positioned through the sheath. The catheter can now be sutured to the skin and dressed in a standard fashion.

For further illustrations of this technique see page 39.



REFERENCES

Dr Chris Pollitt, University of Queensland, Brisbane, Australia.