USE OF TRANSILLUMINATION TECHNIQUE IS NOT LIMITED TO VENOUS CANNULATION ONLY!

Dear Sir,

I read the recent article by Payal et al[1] with great interest. The authors described the use of transillumination by using a cold light source to facilitate venous cannulation in paediatric patients. I applaud the authors for revisiting this technique. However, I would like to mention a few more uses for this technique.

The authors only discussed the usefulness of transillumination for venous cannulation;[1] however, this technique is also useful for percutaneous arterial cannulation[2] and the withdrawal of arterial blood for sampling.[3] In paediatric patients, transillumination is also useful for umbilical catheterisation.[4] The authors discussed the use of a torch and fibrescope as the light source for umbilical catheterisation,[1] but specialised devices like Veinlite (TransLite, Sugar Land, TX, USA) are available specifically for this purpose.[5] Lastly, the transillumination technique has been successfully used for mapping prior to ambulatory phlebectomy.[6]

Yours sincerely,

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