



Cattle Vet AU

Dr Ash Phipps

Preparing The Calf For IV Fluids

Step 1: Prepare fluid line to ensure no air bubbles are present in the line



Step 2: Clip away the hair from the jugular vein



Step 3: Clean the area with an alcohol spray or antiseptic spray

Raise the jugular vein by placing your thumb over the vein $\frac{3}{4}$ the way down the calf's neck

Tap the vein with your free hand's finger and see and feel a fluid wave in the vein



Step 4: Make a small cut with a scalpel blade into the skin over the vein (makes it easier for catheter to be placed)

Insert the catheter bevel upwards in the jugular at an angle of 45 degrees



Step 5: When blood is seen in the stylet of the catheter ("flush"), gently advance the catheter into the jugular and remove the stylet at the same time.



Step 6: Connect the fluid line to the catheter end

For "Bolus fluids" hold fluid line and catheter in place

For "Continuous fluids", glue/suture catheter in place and wrap the neck of the calf with conforming bandage

Confine calf so it cannot move around

Flow rate of 30 to 40 mL/kg/h (max 80mL/Kg/h)

