

**Project:** I.V. Arm for Live Patients

**Materials:** IV arm

**Cost:** If using stock IV start arm - \$0.00. If buying new, \$ Cha-ching.

**Time:** 2 min during simulations

**Details:** (Technique is used for embedded patients). During our 2<sup>nd</sup> semester scenarios, students learn to integrate skills with patient care while critical thinking. This includes IV starts. Have the ‘patient’ place their arm under the bedsheets. The instructor then places the IV arm in the position of the hidden arm (Image below) tucking the upper end into the arm opening of the gown (hide the tubes and blood reservoir under the pillow). The ‘nurse’ can then establish an IV, and push (small amounts of) meds. When using a pump, just stop the infusion as soon as it starts to drip to keep it from diluting the blood. Keep the arm attached to the blood reservoir for a proper ‘flash.’ For grins & giggles, patient can hold the arm (from under the covers) and wiggle it when stuck with an emphatic ‘ouch.’

