

THE BLUE PHANTOM

ULTRASOUND GUIDED VASCULAR ACCESS PHANTOM



The Blue Phantom is designed to be the most realistic as well as resilient ultrasound simulation phantom in the world. The simulated vessels contain the characteristics of human blood vessels; they visually appear like blood vessels with ultrasound imaging, are compressible, provide a tactile response during cannulation, allow for needle placement verification through needle backflow, and catheters can be threaded into the vessels to enhance catheter insertion technique training.

REFILLING THE BLUE PHANTOM

Users can experience a reduction in the amount of fluid in the simulated vessels or small amounts of air introduced into the vessels through normal repeated use. While this is directly dependent upon the amount of fluid removed during simulation training, the phantom vessels can be easily refilled and air can be purged from the system without difficulty using the following method;

- Determine if the vessels require refilling.** Hold the Phantom up to a light source with phantom's sealing plugs (the dimples seen on one end of the phantom) facing upward. The vessels will run perpendicular to the ground if you are in the correct position. Low fluid volume will be seen as a lack of the red blood simulant in the vessel and air will appear as a white void in the vessel usually towards the top of the vessel. If the vessel is significantly low in fluid or air is present, you will need to refill the vessel.
- Materials required for refilling a vessel;**
 - The Blue Phantom
 - Simulated fluid available from Blue Phantom
 - A small bore needle (21 – 25 gauge)
 - One 10 ml syringe
- SLOWLY fill the syringe with the replacement fluid.** Filling the syringe SLOWLY prevents air bubbles from being produced by excessive suction.
- Place the Phantom in an upright position on a table.** Position the phantom with the sealing plugs facing upward. Use a book or other solid object to keep the phantom in an upright position.
- Carefully insert the needle into the end of the targeted simulated vessel. CAUTION: take extra care when placing the needle in the phantom in order to prevent accidentally puncturing yourself during the refilling process.**
- SLOWLY infuse fluid into the simulation vessel until it is full. Filling the vessel SLOWLY prevents air bubbles from being introduced into the vessel.** You will observe the size of the simulated vessel expand as fluid is introduced.
- Withdraw any air that has accumulated at the top of the simulated vessel.**
- Remove excessive fluid from the vessel until the vessel has retained its original size.** Be careful because overfilling the vessels can cause previously cannulated sites to leak small amounts of fluid. If you notice this occurring, simply remove a small amount of fluid.
- If you are uncomfortable refilling the vessel for any reason, contact us and we can refill the phantom for you for a nominal fee.**

